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PUBLICATION

PRIVATE DETECTIVE

DECEMBER No.8

10¢ ICD 12

KEN SHANNON

CRIME-BUSTING PRIVATE EYE

THE CHINATOWN MURDERS





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LOOK! TERRIFIC BARGAINS!

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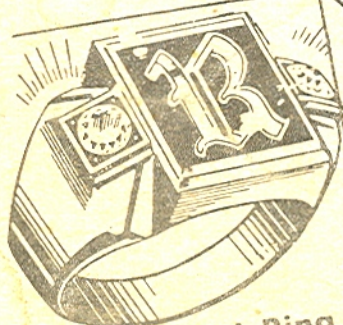
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IMPORTANT! — Read this message for YOU!

Look over these thrilling bargains! SAVE at least 50% off our regular credit prices by buying the cash-save way! It's so EASY to order! Simply place ✓ mark in box next to desired article in COUPON! We will mail to your home on APPROVAL! Send no money now! Deposit price shown plus 10 cents M.O. fee with letter carrier on delivery. All prices are TAX PAID — no hidden extras for tax or mailing expenses!

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Men's INITIAL Ring

The ring for smart men! Electro GOLD PLATED in 14 Karat. Your own INITIAL in handsome Gothic lettering in raised GOLD color effect — HIGH RAISED — on a sparkling simulated RUBY flanked by 2 PSEUDO DIAMONDS imported from Europe! An outstanding ring — a life time BARGAIN. Mention letter desired and size in thin paper strip will do! Order No. 401. Bargain price, no extras — 348

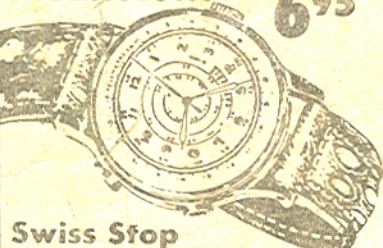


"LOYALE" SET

10 glistening brilliants to resemble diamonds are featured in famous LOYALE Wedding Ring set. Gorgeous gold color! So fashionable! Compare! Order by No. 396. Both for 294

AMAZING INVENTION!

ONLY 695



Swiss Stop

CHRONOGRAPH NEW — DIFFERENT

Multi-Purpose Watch

Times Races! Times Sports!

Times Autos & Horses!

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What a wrist watch! It's simply amazing! It's a 4-IN-1 stop watch and chronograph COMBINED. Precision made by Swiss artisans.

11 — Wonder Features — 11

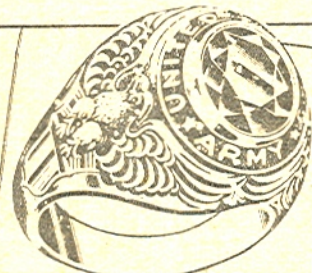
It's a speedometer, telemeter, DOUBLE PUSH BUTTON STOP WATCH. Measures speed as well as DISTANCES of horse and auto races, sports, planes, boats, etc. Actually has SPLIT-SECOND calibrations, unbreakable crystal, sweep second hand, rich looking case that withstands long and hard usage! Everyone wants one! Students, soldiers, engineers, sailors, aviators, race fans, sportsmen, photographers, and all men of action! A wonderful timekeeper — the watch that is different! Full instructions given. UNLIMITED GUARANTEE CERTIFICATE exclusive of parts with every watch. Never a charge for skilled labor repairs. 695 Order by No. 236.



"SUBLIME"

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Heavy weight! Beautiful NATURAL GOLD COLOR effect. Has one big Pseudo Diamond with 4 more on sides. Rich "princess" design. Smart & wealthy looking. Order by No. 357. Only 297



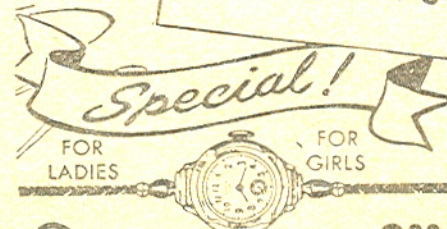
Ruby

ARMY Ring

SOLID SILVER

BIG! HEAVY

A wonderful ring for that boy in service! Extra heavy SOLID STERLING SILVER! Big simulated RUBY in center. Super special! De-luxe quality. Lifetime value! Order by No. 399. Only 395

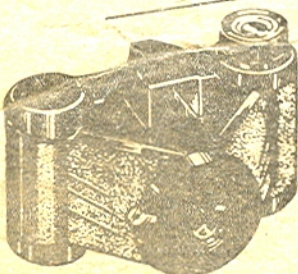
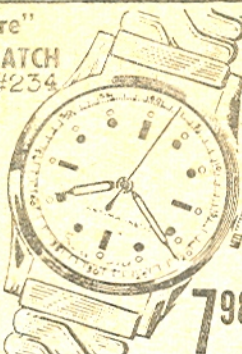


D #218 Dainty SPORTEX Watch 698

The ideal watch for active women, girls, typists, housewives, etc. It's so sturdy and accurate. Shock-resistant case. Luminous hands and numbers for night reading. Unbreakable crystal. Conditional GUARANTEE Certificate with each watch. Amazing value. Only 698

"The Millionaire" SMART MEN'S WATCH #234

Last word in smart styling for men! Sparkling imitation rubies and brilliants around dial. Accurate, dependable, ANTI-MAGNETIC movement. Solid GOLD color, effect case, chromed back. Sweep-Second! Shock-Resist case. Dial glows in dark! DeLuxe Expansion Bracelet given. Satisfaction guaranteed or full price back! It's a WINNER — looks like a MILLION. Yours for only . . . 798



Tiny Midget Camera TAKES SECRET PICTURES

- Fits in palm of hand
- Only 2 x 3 inches
- Easy to use!
- Takes dandy pictures!

139

TINY MIDGET CAMERA — only 2 x 3 inches! Easily concealed in palm of your hand! NOW! Take SECRET pictures without being seen! Get dandy jumbo pictures, size 2 x 3 inches, also Kodak COLOR pictures and beautiful enlargements. Lightweight but sturdy. Carry with you always! Take pictures at sports events, school affairs, accidents, your friends and family! Loads of fun. EASY! Just aim and shoot! Nothing complicated! GUARANTEED to satisfy or full price back! Order by No. 32. Price only 139



Your very own BIRTHMONTH WATCH

875

NOT 19.50

Exquisite CLAMOUR watch set with 2 large, beautiful BIRTHMONTH deepstone color stones, full of fire and brilliancy! 50 Pseudo DIAMONDS placed all around sparkle with heavenly effect. Conditional GUARANTEE certificate and Gift Box given. Tell us MONTH of birth when ordering! Order by No. 249. Your bargain price — 875 NO EXTRAS — only



SALE Swiss

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#231

Here's your big chance to enjoy a dandy, good looking IMPORTED SWISS WATCH at a BARGAIN PRICE! Every watch before shipment and INSPECTED. Has many quality features found in watches selling for much more! One of America's BIG VALUES! Satisfaction GUARANTEED or full price back if not thrilled in 10 days. You risk nothing — so don't miss this terrific bargain — only 495



ART SIMULATION OF

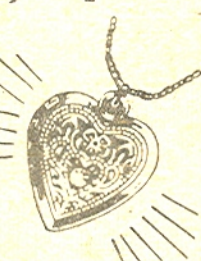
Platinum BOTH YOURS \$500 \$500

NEW and so beautiful, too! 12 selected Pseudo DIAMONDS imported from Europe set in an enchanting Engagement & Wedding Ring Set . . . fashionable PLATINUM color effect, perfectly matched. Special SALE price for both . . . 500 — including all tax & mailing costs. NO EXTRAS! Yet they look like \$850.00 and more! They gleam with a 1000 rays of light. Made with SOLID PRECIOUS METAL! Enjoy a LIFETIME! Order by No. 404. Bargain price only 500

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AMAZING bargain! Chip- DIAMOND locket in rich gold color effect with 16 inch chain. Holds 2 pictures of loved ones. Lifetime value! Order by No. 507. No. it's not \$10.00. Our price 295



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NUMBER	ARTICLE	PRICE

Your NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
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SAVE MORE — get more — by sending cash or money order with this coupon! We pay ALL fees and you get 2 GIFTS instead of only one!



"SUCCESS STYLE" for successful men Distinguished! "Big Boy" Looks Thrills the Ladies! Big Pseudo Diamond & Rubies 2.99



Your Birthmonth Color Stone 10 Blazing Pseudo DIAMONDS Set all around! Do tell us your Month of Birth! 1.91

Ken Shannon

I MUST LOOK EVEN MORE STUPID THAN I AM! OR ELSE WHY DO THEY KEEP FEEDING CASES TO ME THAT WOULD ONLY MAKE SENSE TO A REFUGEE FROM A LUNATIC ASYLUM? BEING A PRIVATE EYE ISN'T THE SOFT SNAP YOU'D IMAGINE FROM THAT ROMANTIC ADVENTURE STUFF DISHED OUT ON RADIO AND TELEVISION! IN REAL LIFE, A WELL-MEANING PRIVATE EYE WILL MOST LIKELY WIND UP BEHIND THE EIGHT BALL, AS I DID IN THE CASE OF THE

MANSION OF MANGLED MEN!



HENRY CARLTON

HE WANTED TO LEAVE A FORTUNE TO SOMEONE... BUT THE HEIRS KEPT TURNING UP DEAD!



BOB CARLTON

HE NEEDED UNCLE HENRY'S MONEY BADLY! IF HE DIDN'T GET IT, HE'D BE KILLED! IF HE DID GET IT, HE WAS SLATED TO BE A MURDER VICTIM, ANYHOW!



JANICE

BOB'S WIFE AND THE CHIEF REASON HE NEEDED MONEY! EVEN THE U.S. TREASURY DIDN'T PRINT ENOUGH OF THE STUFF TO SATISFY HER!



MARTY RICO

HE LIKED TO BE PAID OFF, IN FULL! BUT HE WAS SURPRISED AT THE WAY IN WHICH THE PAYOFF WAS MADE!

KEN SHANNON

I'M ONLY HUMAN, AND WHEN SOMEBODY PUSHES A WAD OF BILLS IN FRONT OF MY FACE I CAN'T HELP STARTING TO SALIVATE A LITTLE...

IS THIS ENOUGH FOR A RETAINER, MR. SHANNON?

ULP!

I GUESS IT'LL DO, MR. CARLTON! JUST GIVE ME THE NAME OF THE MAN YOU WANT ME TO MURDER!

DON'T JEST, MR. SHANNON, PLEASE! I'M IN DEADLY EARNEST! I WANT YOU TO BE A WITNESS THIS EVENING WHEN I SIGN MY NEW WILL!

I ALSO WANT YOU TO MAKE SURE THAT I LIVE TO SIGN IT! YOU SEE, I INTEND TO LEAVE MY ENTIRE FORTUNE TO MY NEPHEW, BOB, AND LEAVE OUT ENTIRELY HIS BROTHER, JOHN, WHOM I HAVEN'T SEEN FOR YEARS!

AND YOU THINK SOME OF YOUR OTHER RELATIVES MIGHT OBJECT ...VIOLENTLY!

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE, MR. SHANNON! YOU SEE, MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS AGO ONE OF MY ANCESTORS TRIED TO DO THE SAME THING I'M PLANNING TO DO TONIGHT!

HE SET OFF A BLOOD FIGHT THAT ENDED IN A WHOLESALE MASSACRE! FIVE PEOPLE WERE FOUND DEAD, THE NEXT DAY, WITH THEIR HEADS BASHED IN!

WHEW! WHERE DID THIS HAPPEN?

IN THE VERY SAME HOUSE WHERE I'M LIVING TODAY! EVER SINCE THAT...UH...TRAGIC ACCIDENT, PEOPLE HAVE CALLED IT THE MANSION OF MANGLED MEN!

HENRY CARLTON'S HOME WAS WELL NAMED! IT LOOKED LIKE A STAGE SETTING RIGHT OUT OF BORIS KARLOFF'S LATEST MOVIE! THAT NIGHT, AS DEE DEE AND I DROVE TOWARD IT...

BRRR! IMAGINE LIVING IN A HOUSE WHERE FIVE PEOPLE WERE MURDERED!

I HOPE THEY PAINTED OUT THE BLOOD-STAINS ON THE WALLS!

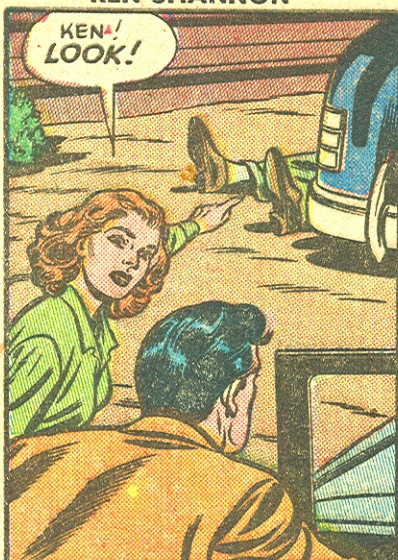
KEN SHANNON

THIS IS THE KIND OF ANTIQUE MUSEUM WHERE THE INHABITANTS MIGHT THINK IT WAS QUITE CUTE TO LEAVE TRACES OF MURDER LYING AROUND!

EEEEKK!



KEN!
LOOK!



HMMM! SEEMS TO BE MORE THAN A TRACE OF MURDER LYING AROUND!

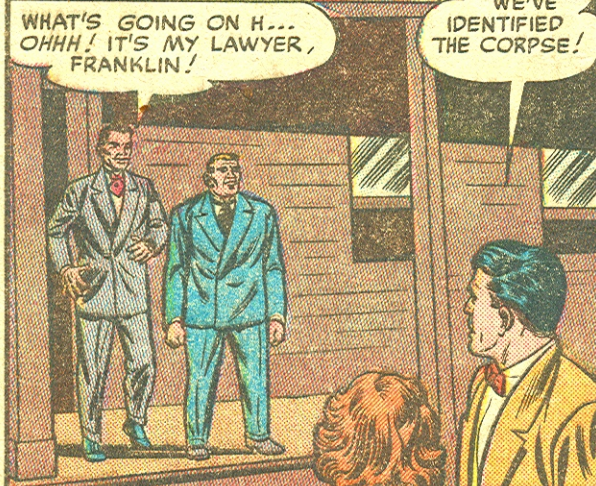
HIS HEAD... ALL SMASHED IN!



DEE DEE'S SCREAM SOON BROUGHT SOME MORE COMPANY!

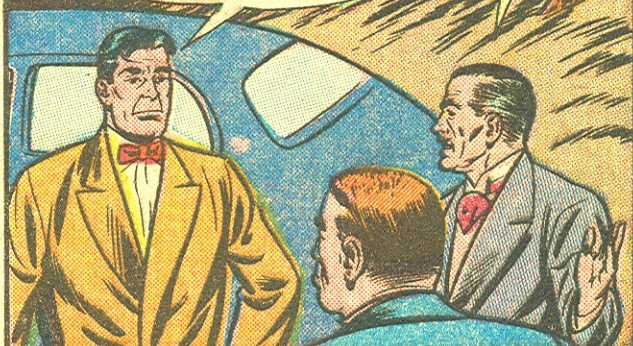
WHAT'S GOING ON H...
OH!! IT'S MY LAWYER, FRANKLIN!

WELL, AT LEAST WE'VE IDENTIFIED THE CORPSE!



NOW MAYBE WE CAN MAKE SOME HEADWAY ON FINDING THE KILLER! THE LAWYER WAS KILLED WITHIN THE LAST HALF HOUR... HIS BODY HASN'T EVEN STARTED TO STIFFEN WITH RIGOR MORTIS YET! DID YOU HEAR ANYTHING DURING THAT TIME?

N-NO! MY VALET, JACOB, AND I WERE THE ONLY PEOPLE IN THE HOUSE!



WE NEVER HEARD A SOUND! THIS IS A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY! MY LAWYER, MR. FRANKLIN, WAS COMING OVER TONIGHT TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CHANGES IN MY WILL! OBVIOUSLY, SOMEONE KILLED HIM TO PREVENT HIM FROM DOING SO!



BUT THEY WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT! I'LL SEND FOR MY NEPHEW, BOB, TO COME HERE AT ONCE AND GET THE FORMALITIES OVER WITH!

AND I'LL SEND FOR LIEUTENANT ART CLYDE, OF THE HOMICIDE DEPARTMENT!



KEN SHANNON

LEUTENANT ART CLYDE WASN'T EXACTLY ENTRANCED TO HEAR FROM ME AGAIN! FROM THE WAY ART ACTS SOMETIMES, YOU'D THINK I WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MOST OF THE MURDERS I TOSS INTO HIS LAP!

ANY VAMPIRES IN YOUR FAMILY, KEN? YOU ALWAYS SEEM TO BE AROUND WHEN THERE'S BLOOD BEING SHED!

CUT THE COMEDY, ART! YOU OUGHT TO BE GRATEFUL THAT I'M DOING PART OF YOUR WORK FOR YOU!



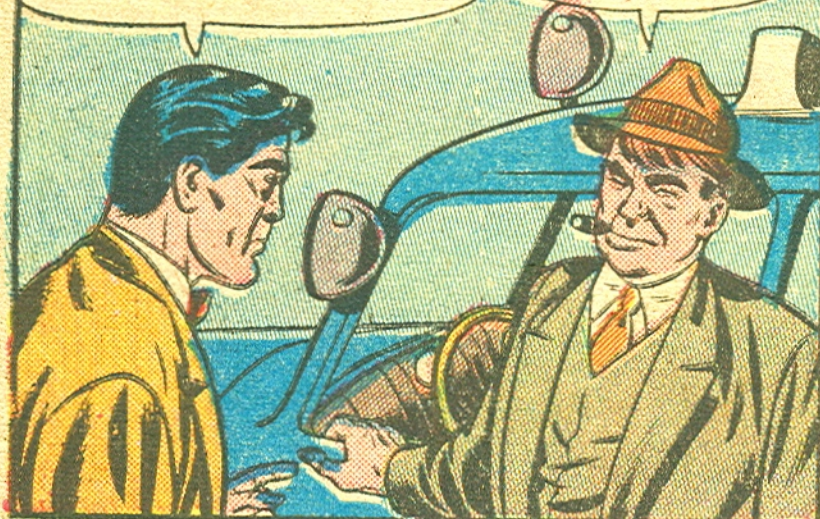
YOU MEAN YOU'VE DUG UP A SUSPECT?

FIND OUT EVERYTHING YOU CAN ABOUT A CERTAIN JOHN CARLTON! HE'S UNCLE HENRY'S OTHER NEPHEW...THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO BE DISINHERITED!



IF ANYBODY'S GOT A MOTIVE, HE'S THE ONE! JOHN'S SUPPOSED TO BE ONE OF THE ADVENTUROUS TYPES! AT THE MOMENT, RUMOR HAS IT THAT HE'S TRAIPSING AROUND TIBET!

HMM! BUT YOU THINK HE MIGHT BE A LOT CLOSER TO HOME, EH? IT'S WORTH LOOKING INTO, KEN!



WHEN I RETURNED TO MY CLIENT HE WAS DEEP IN CONVERSATION WITH A YOUNG COUPLE!

OH, HELLO, SHANNON! I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY NEPHEW, BOB, AND HIS WIFE JANICE!

KENNY!



YOU SWEET THING! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE I WORKED AT THE SILVER SLIPPER NIGHT CLUB!

UH...YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT, JANICE!



I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU'D... ER... GOTTEN MARRIED SINCE THEN!

OH, BOB, I WANT YOU TO MEET A REAL OLD FRIEND OF MINE... PRIVATE DETECTIVE KEN SHANNON!



BOB GAVE ME A HAND AS LIMP AS A WET WASHCLOTH!

SO PLEASED TO MEET YOU, MR. SHANNON!

LIKE FUN HE IS! HE'S SO JEALOUS HE'S NEARLY CHOKING!



OF COURSE, I COULDN'T BLAME BOB CARLSON FOR BEING JEALOUS! A DAME LIKE JANICE IS THE TYPE YOU HAVE TO KEEP ON A TIGHT LEASH!

UNCLE HENRY TOLD US ALL ABOUT THE NASTY MURDER! HE SAYS THAT WE'RE ALL IN DANGER! BUT YOU'LL PROTECT ME, WON'T YOU, KENNY BOY?

I'LL DO MY BEST!

OH, YOU SWE-EET THING!

ULP!

I WAS GLAD TO GET AWAY FROM JANICE AND PUT MY MIND BACK ON BUSINESS AGAIN! I FIGURED THAT, WITH BOB CARLTON IN THE HOUSE, THE KILLER WAS LIKELY TO TRY AGAIN! SO I SENT DEE DEE HOME AND PREPARED FOR AN ALL NIGHT VIGIL!

UH-OH! I WAS RIGHT!

NEVER MIND COMING OUT, BUSTER! I'LL COME IN!

UHHHH!

IT WAS ROUGH WORK, FIGHTING IN THAT THORNY UNDER-GROWTH! BUT I FINALLY GOT THIS GEEZER STRAIGHTENED UP FOR A KEN SHANNON SPECIAL!

And I LET HIM HAVE IT!

KA-THUMP!

KEN SHANNON

QUITE A LONG WHILE PASSED BEFORE HE SHOWED ANY SIGNS OF COMING BACK TO LIFE...

SOMEDAY YOU'RE GONNA KILL SOMEBODY WITH THAT WALLOP OF YOURS, SHAMUS!

YOURS IS THE CHIN I LOVE TO TOUCH!



IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, MARTY RICO! OUR PREVIOUS DISAGREEMENTS HAD TO DO WITH YOUR SWANK GAMBLING CLUB AND THE SUCKERS YOU FLEECED THERE! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER TIED YOU INTO --- MURDER!

YOU'RE CRAZY!



I NEVER KILLED ANYBODY! I DON'T EVEN PACK A ROD! EVERYBODY KNOWS MARTY RICO ISN'T A GUN GUY!

MAYBE THE STAKES JUST WEREN'T HIGH ENOUGH BEFORE! THEY'VE RAISED THE ANTE TO NEARLY A MILLION BUCKS HERE!

THAT KIND OF MOOLAH WOULD BRING OUT THE KILLER INSTINCT EVEN IN A PLAY-IT-SAFE GAMBLER LIKE YOU!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT! I CAME HERE TO KEEP AN EYE ON BOB CARLTON!



KEEP TALKING! WHY ARE YOU SO INTERESTED IN BOB CARLTON?

H-HE'S A C-CLIENT OF MINE! LOST A LOT OF MONEY AT MY GAMBLING TABLES! THEN HE DIDN'T HAVE IT TO PAY OFF!



I TOOK HIS I.O.U.'S ON THE PROMISE HE WAS GOING TO COLLECT A FORTUNE FROM HIS UNCLE HENRY! SOMETHING ABOUT A WILL BEING CHANGED IN HIS FAVOR...

YOU KNOW, RICO, I COULD ALMOST BELIEVE YOU'RE TELLING THE TRUTH!

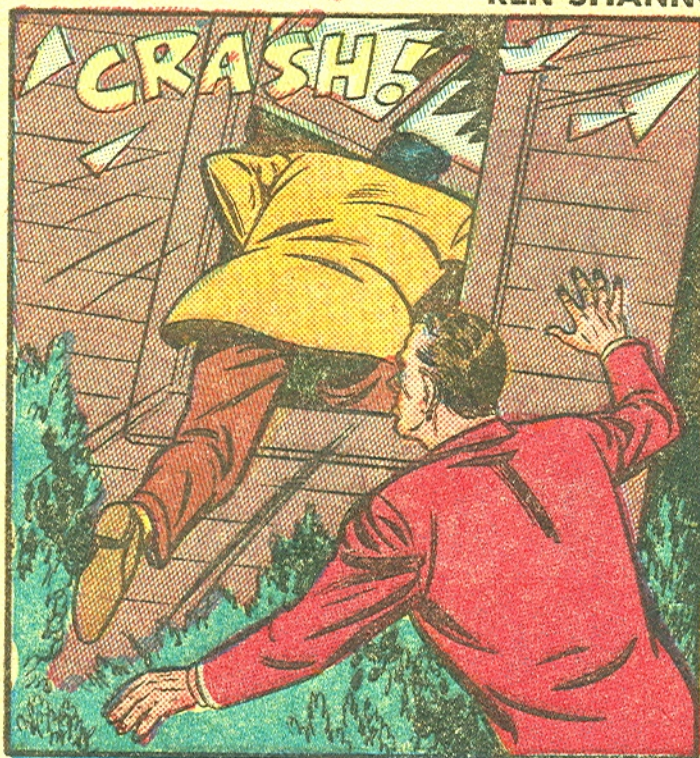


WE'LL CHECK YOUR STORY WITH BOB CARLTON, THOUGH! HE'LL TELL US WHETHE...

EEEEAAH!



THAT SCREAM WAS WRENCHED OUT OF A MAN'S DYING BREATH! I WASTED NO TIME LOOKING FOR AN ENTRANCE, AND MARTY RICO WASN'T FAR BEHIND ME...



BOB CARLTON!



HE'S DEAD! HIS HEAD CRUSHED LIKE AN EGG-SHELL! THE MURDERER CAN'T... OH-OH!



HE WAS STILL IN THE ROOM!

WAIT!



YOU'D BETTER CALL THE POLICE! THIS IS MURDER!

HUH? THIS IS NO TIME FOR HYSTERICS, RICO!



OUT OF MY WAY!

OH-HH!

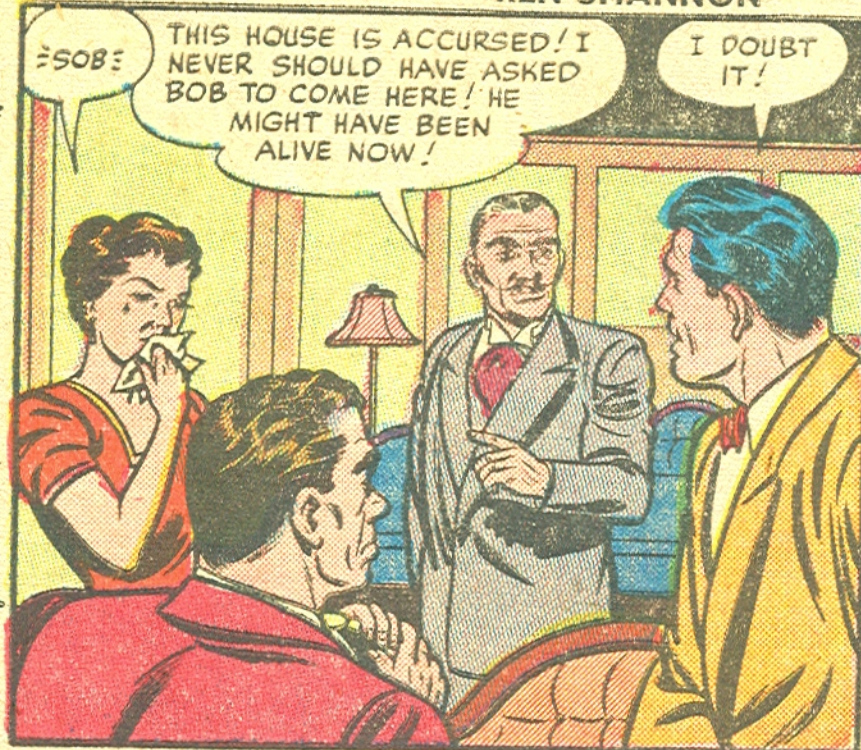


MARTY RICO DELAYED ME JUST A INSTANT TOO LONG!

THE KILLER'S GONE! NO TELLING WHETHER HE TOOK THE STAIRS, OR EXITED THROUGH ONE OF THOSE DOORS!

KEN SHANNON

THERE WAS NO USE CRYING OVER SPOILED CHANCES! AFTER LIEUTENANT CLYDE HAD COME AND GONE AGAIN, THINGS WERE PRETTY GRIM IN THE CARLTON MANSION...



WHEN I HUNG UP THE PHONE, I WAS PLENTY ROCKED! JOHN CARLTON HAD BEEN THE ONE WITH THE LOGICAL MOTIVE IN THIS SCREWY CASE, AND NOW HE'D BEEN ELIMINATED... IN MOST CONVINCING FASHION!



KEN SHANNON

THERE'S A LOT TO BE SAID FOR CONVENTIONAL POLICE METHODS! SO I STARTED GOING OVER THAT HOUSE WITH A FINE TOOTH COMB...

ART CLYDE'S BOYS DID A SEARCH JOB! BUT THERE'S JUST A CHANCE THEY OVER-LOOKED SOMETHING!



LIKE THE MURDER WEAPON, FOR INSTANCE!



A CLAW HAMMER...PACKED AWAY IN THE LOWER DRAWER OF THE VALET'S ROOM! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF IT BEFORE? JACOB PROBABLY STANDS TO INHERIT QUITE A HUNK OF LOOT UNDER THE TERMS OF THAT WILL!



A PISTOL SHOT INTERRUPTED MY TRAIN OF THOUGHT...

??

BLAM!

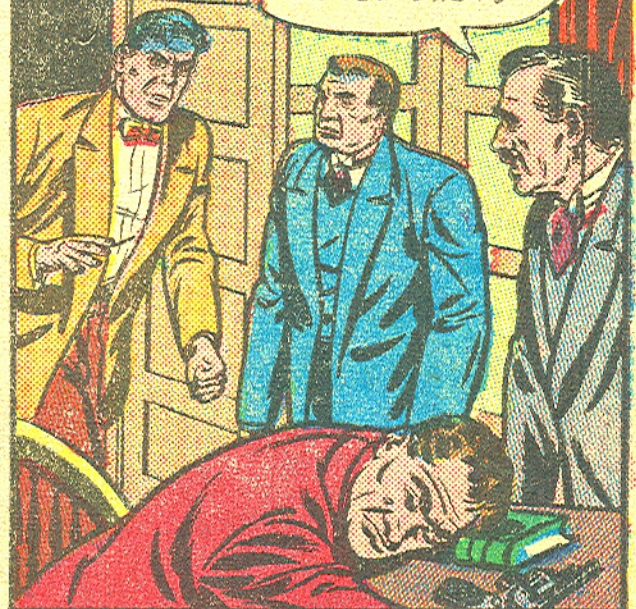


NOT AGAIN! HOW WILL I EVER EXPLAIN ANOTHER CORPSE TO LIEUTENANT ART CLYDE?



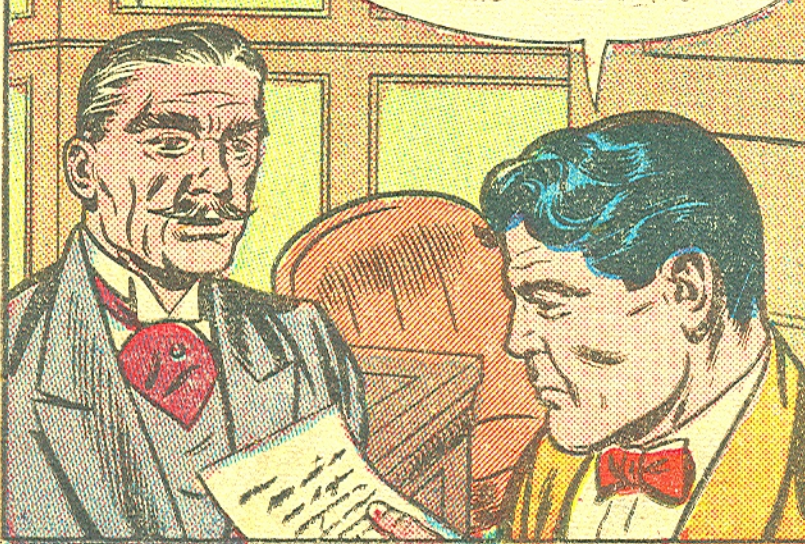
MARTY RICO!

WE FOUND HIM LIKE THIS, SHANNON! HE BLEW OUT HIS BRAINS WITH A PISTOL SHOT!



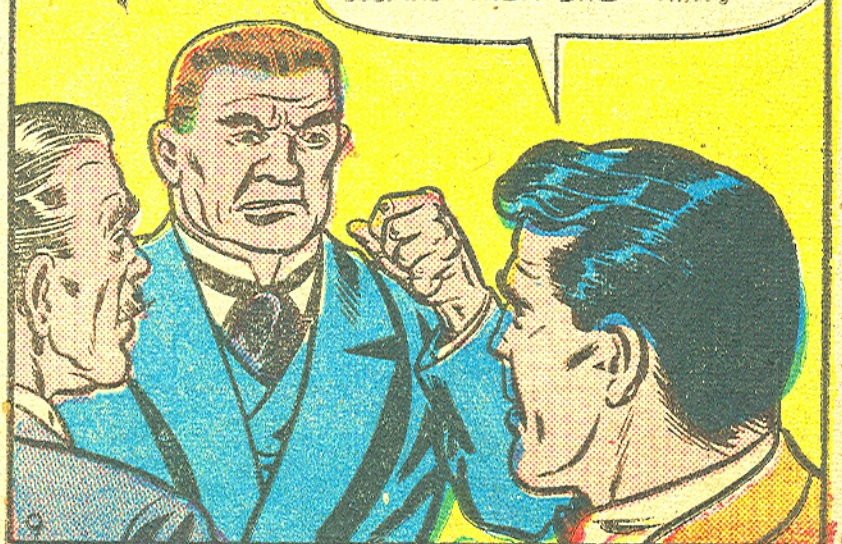
APPARENTLY EVEN HE WAS NOT SAFE FROM THE DOOM THAT LIES UPON THIS HOUSE!

RICO LEFT A CONFESSION! SAYS HE BUMPED OFF THE LAWYER AS A WARNING TO BOB TO PAY UP... AND THEN HAD TO MURDER BOB WHEN HE REFUSED TO SQUARE THE ACCOUNT!



I SHOULD HAVE STRANGLED THAT NO GOOD GANGSTER WITH MY BARE HANDS!

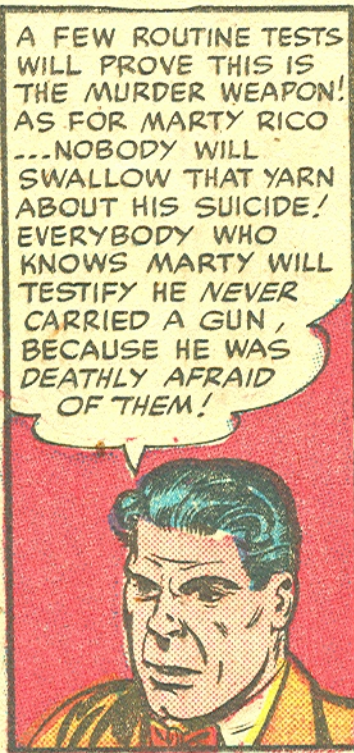
NO, JACOB! THAT WOULDN'T HAVE BORNE OUT THE SUICIDE THEORY! WHEN MARTY TRIED TO BLACKMAIL YOU FOR MURDER, YOU FORCED HIM TO WRITE THAT CONFESSION...AND THEN SHOT HIM!



KEN SHANNON



ME? YOU MUST BE CRAZY! THEN MAYBE YOU CAN EXPLAIN HOW I HAPPENED TO FIND THIS CLAW HAMMER IN YOUR ROOM?

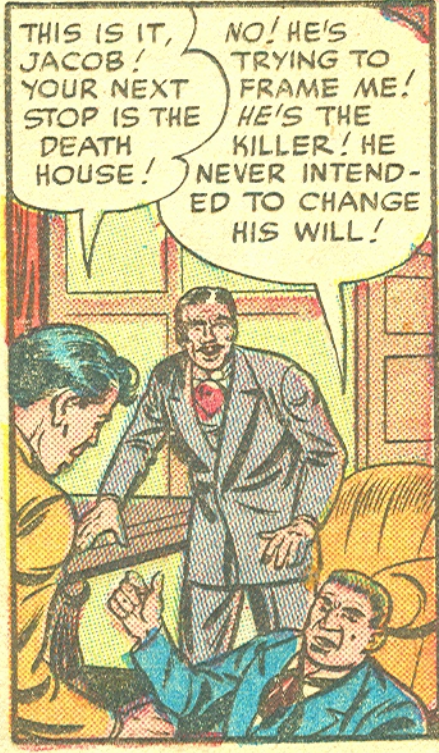


A FEW ROUTINE TESTS WILL PROVE THIS IS THE MURDER WEAPON! AS FOR MARTY RICO...NOBODY WILL SWALLOW THAT YARN ABOUT HIS SUICIDE! EVERYBODY WHO KNOWS MARTY WILL TESTIFY HE NEVER CARRIED A GUN, BECAUSE HE WAS DEATHLY AFRAID OF THEM!



JACOB MADE A GROWLING NOISE IN HIS THROAT AND RUSHED ME! BUT I WAS MORE THAN READY!

BOP!



THIS IS IT, JACOB! YOUR NEXT STOP IS THE DEATH HOUSE!

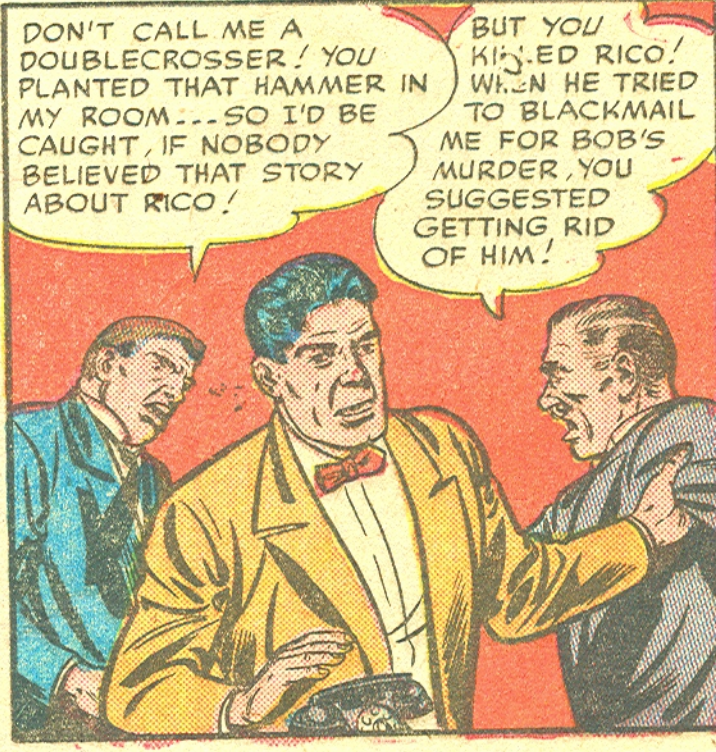
NO! HE'S TRYING TO FRAME ME! HE'S THE KILLER! HE NEVER INTENDED TO CHANGE HIS WILL!

WHEN JACOB STARTED TO SING, NO NIGHTINGALE COULD HAVE TOUCHED HIM! I HAD TO HOLD HENRY CARLTON BACK FROM LEAPING AT HIM AND RENDING HIM TO BITS!



HENRY SQUANDERED ALL THE MONEY HIS BROTHER LEFT! HE WAS SUPPOSED TO TURN IT OVER TO HIS BROTHER'S SONS WHEN THEY CAME OF AGE! IF THEY'D FOUND OUT WHAT HE DID, HENRY WOULD HAVE GONE TO JAIL FOR EMBEZZLEMENT!

WHY, YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING..



DON'T CALL ME A DOUBLCROSSER! YOU PLANTED THAT HAMMER IN MY ROOM...SO I'D BE CAUGHT, IF NOBODY BELIEVED THAT STORY ABOUT RICO!

BUT YOU KILLED RICO! WHEN HE TRIED TO BLACKMAIL ME FOR BOB'S MURDER, YOU SUGGESTED GETTING RID OF HIM!



DON'T ARGUE, BOYS! YOU CAN SIT IN EACH OTHER'S LAP WHEN THEY STRAP YOU INTO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!

LUCKY FOR ME I GOT THAT FAT RETAINER! HENRY CARLTON WASN'T IN ANY MOOD TO PAY THE REST OF MY FEE, AFTER THEY ARRESTED HIM! BUT I GOT A KIND OF BONUS, LATER...



FLOWERS... FROM MY OLD FRIEND, JANICE!

SHE ENCLOSES A CARD WITH HER PHONE NUMBER! AND IF YOU EVER USE IT, KEN SHANNON, YOU'LL BE A MANGLED MAN!

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to Readers of KEN SHANNON



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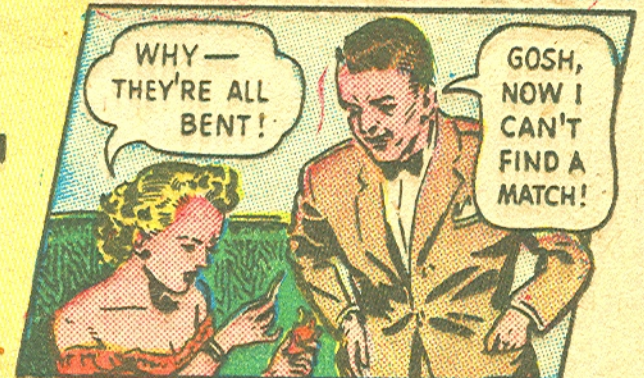
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NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____
NAME TO BE ENGRAVED _____
(Print Plainly)

KEN SHANNON

ANGLES O'DAY

WE'RE EXPECTIN' A CERTAIN IRISHMAN, NAME OF O'DAY! YOU LOOK IRISH TO ME!... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

ULP! NO SPIKA DA ENGLISH!

ANGLES O'DAY DROPS IN TO A CAFE TO SPEND A COUPLE OF HOURS BUT NEARLY REMAINS FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE - WHICH IS ONLY A COUPLE OF MINUTES IF DIRTY LOOIE HAS HIS WAY!

THE RECENT KIDNAPPING OF SQUIRE MCGUIRE'S DAUGHTER HAS THE WHOLE TOWN IN AN UPROAR!

THE BOYS IN POPO'S POOL PARLOR HAVE A SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE CASE...

AND FOR VERY GOOD REASON...

NO KIDDING, O'DAY... YOU MEAN SQUIRE MCGUIRE IS HIRING YOU TO DELIVER THE RANSOM MONEY TO THE KIDNAPPERS?

WHO ELSE? I'M TO PICK UP THE TWENTY GRAND FROM MCGUIRE TOMORROW NIGHT AND MEET THE THUGS AT A SECRET SPOT FOR THE BIG PAY OFF!

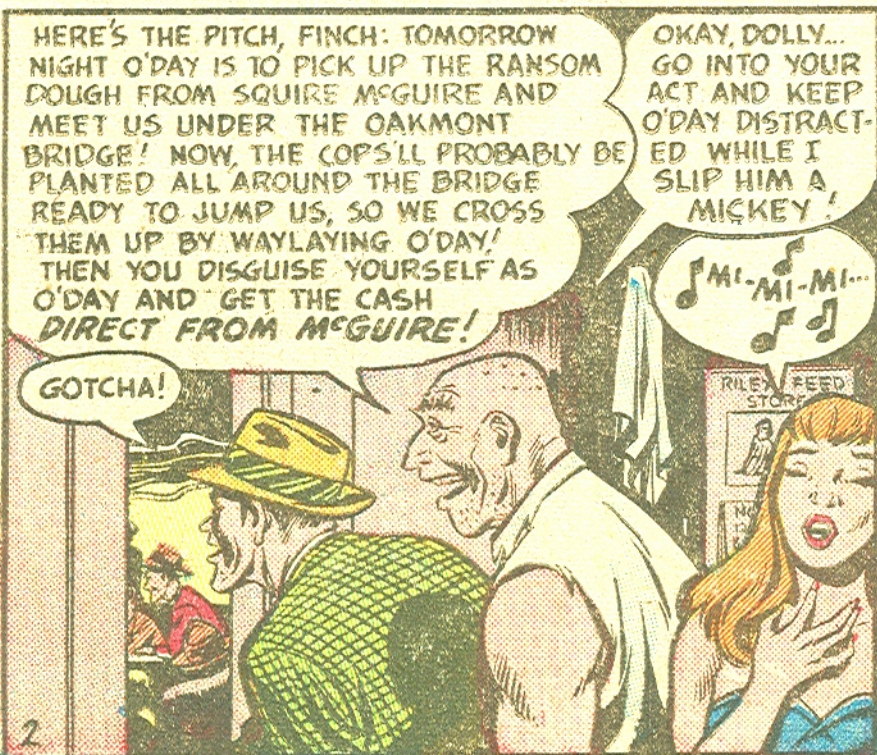
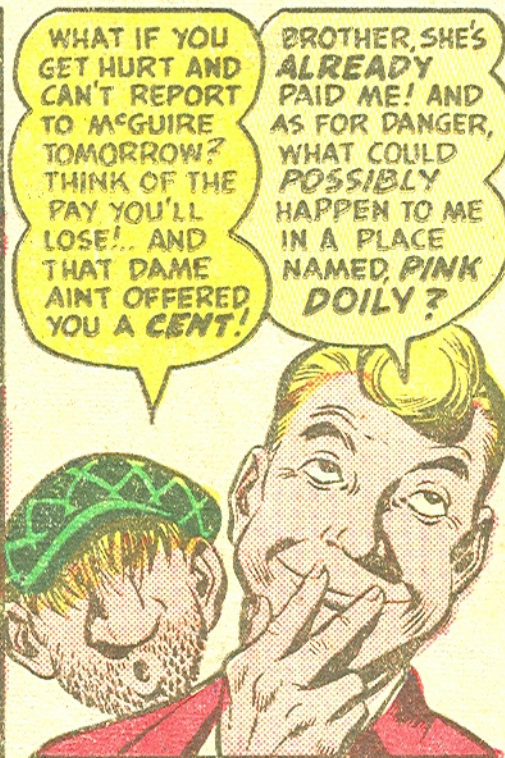
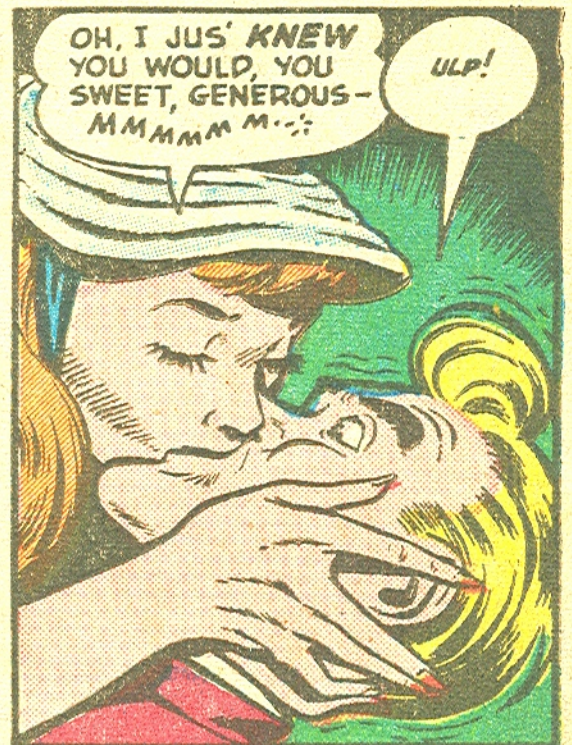
GEE, ANGLES, IT SOUNDS DANGEROUS! WHY YOU MIGHT GET KILT!

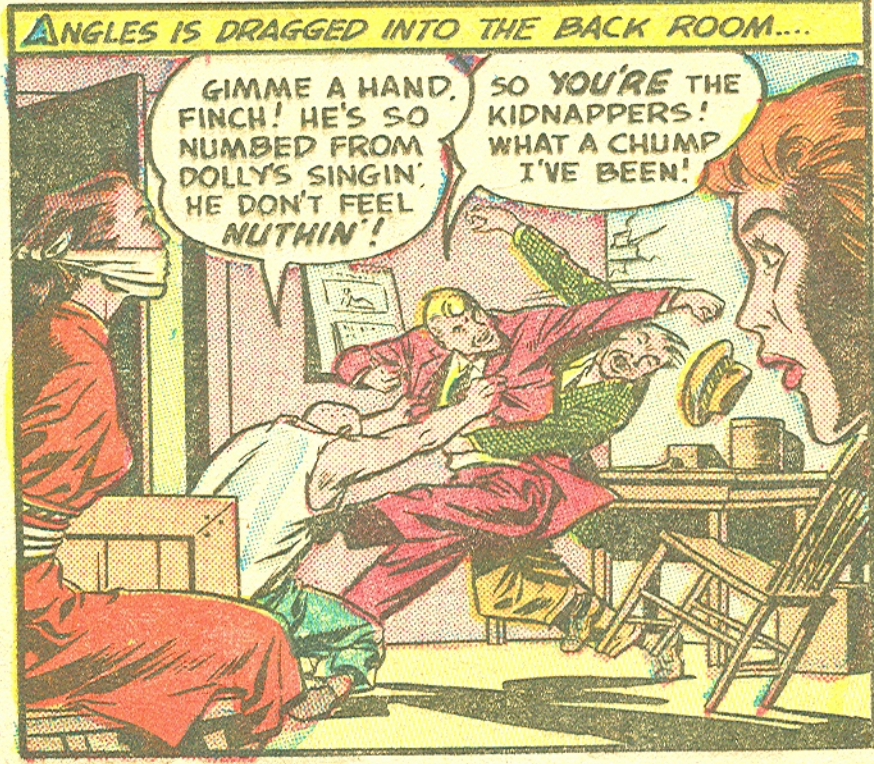
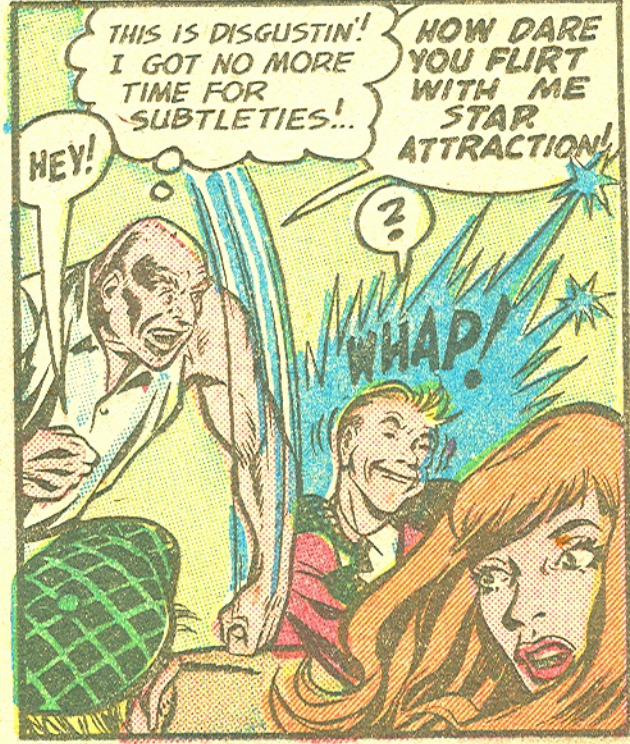
WHERE'S THE DANGER? IF I KNOW O'DAY, HE'LL DROP THE DOUGH AND RUN LIKE A FLUSHED DEER!

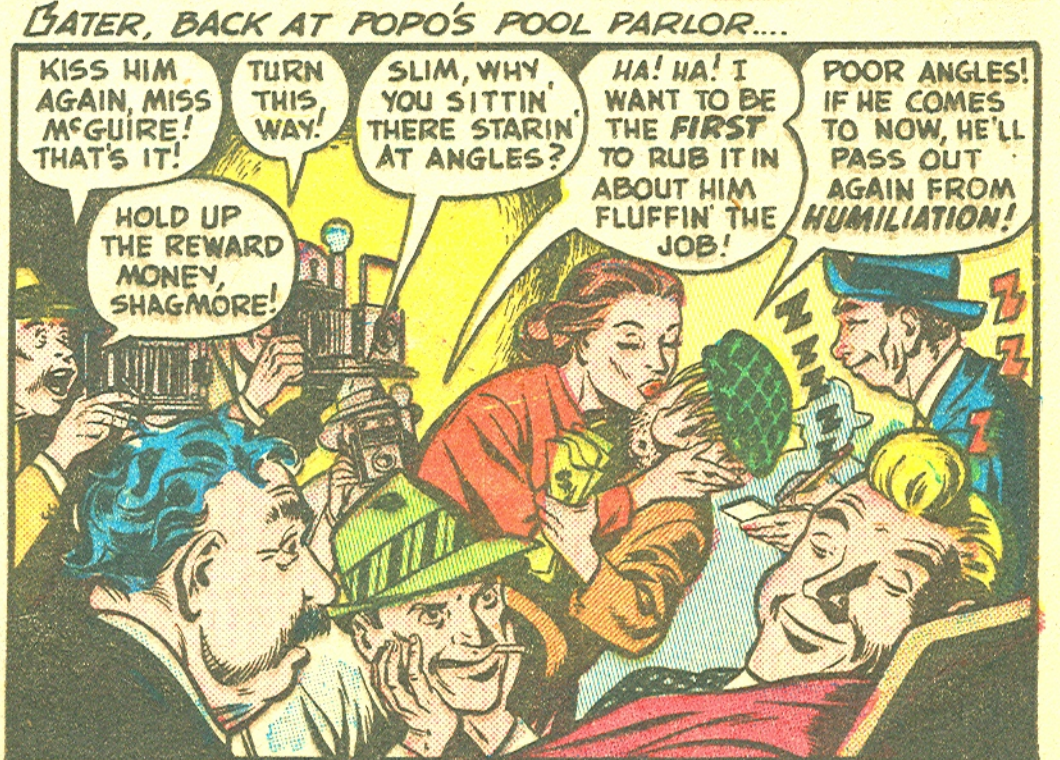
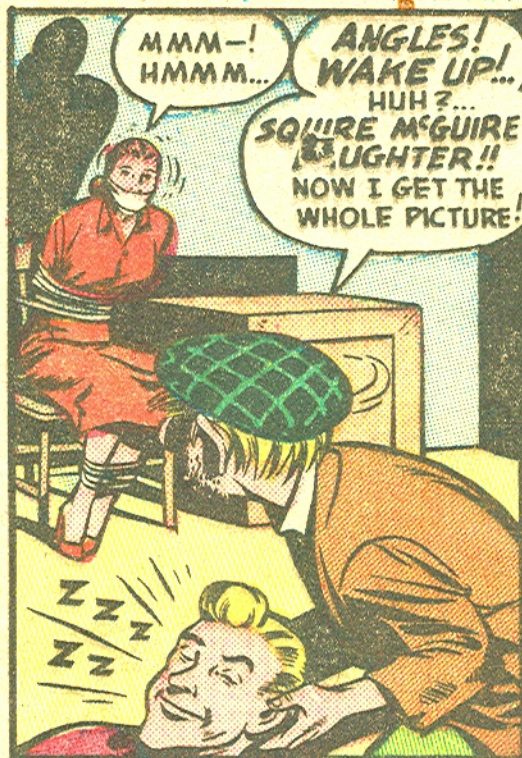
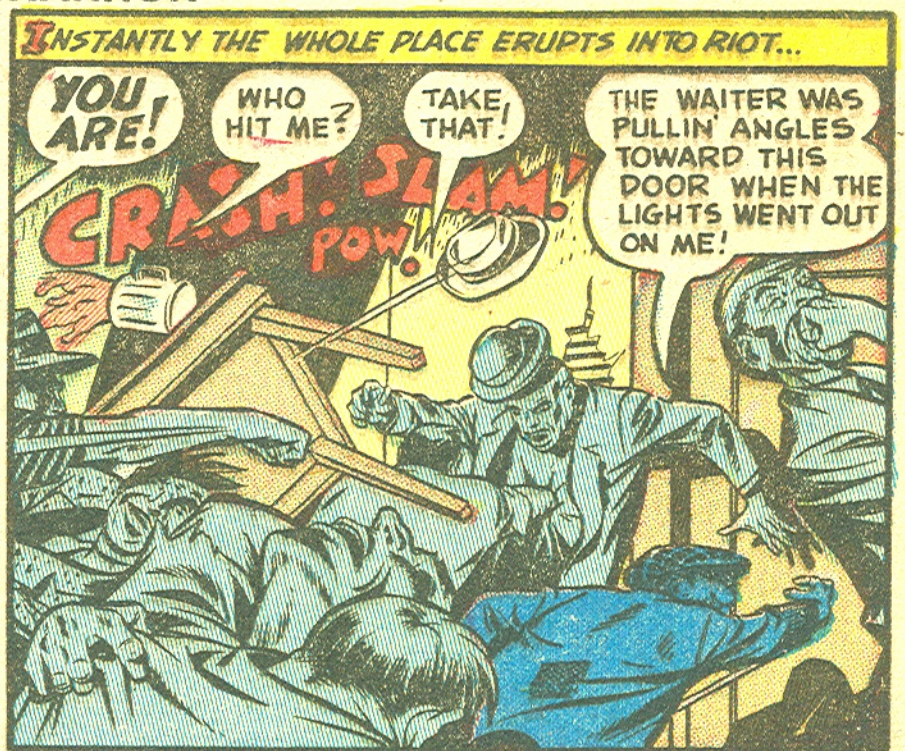
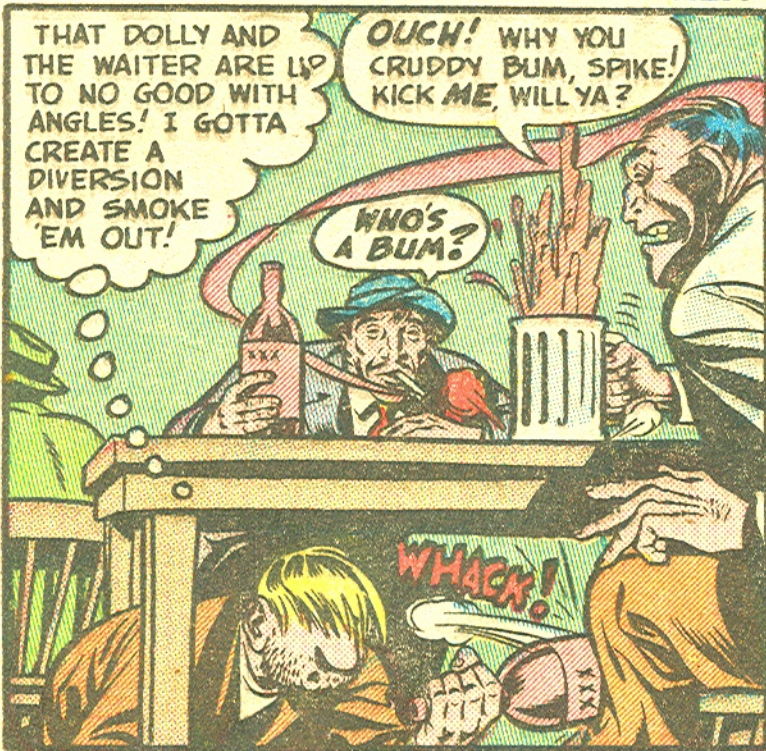
OH YEAH? EITHER THEY TURN OVER THE GIRL TO ME OR I DON'T GIVE THEM A NICKEL!

AND I SAY YOU'LL BLOW THE WHOLE DEAL!

MR. O'DAY! I MUST SPEAK WITH YOU!







KEN SHANNON

KEN SHANNON

MIKE TALCOTT



AN INNOCENT
BYSTANDER WHO
WAS ANYTHING
BUT
"INNOCENT"!

SHELLY DUCLOY



SHE WAS WELL
STACKED...WITH
DYNAMITE!

NICK KREDA



PART-TIME GANG-
STER WHO'D ICE
PICK HIS OWN
BROTHER FOR A
SOME HAPPY-DUST!

CHOW LUNG!



THE PERFECT
DOUBLE-CROSSER!
HE'D EVEN PUT
HIMSELF ON THE
SPOT!

FUNNY WHAT SOME PEOPLE WILL DO TO COLLECT STATUARY...OR WHAT OTHERS.. MYSELF, FOR INSTANCE, WILL DO TO STOP THEM! IT ALL BEGAN WHEN DEE DEE DAWSON, MY GIRL FRIDAY, GOT A HANKERING FOR CHOP SUEY! BUT WHEN WE ARRIVED IN CHINATOWN IT LOOKED AS IF WE WEREN'T GOING TO BE SERVED ANYTHING BUT BULLETS! AND IT WAS ANYBODY'S GUESS WHO OUR "HOST" WAS!

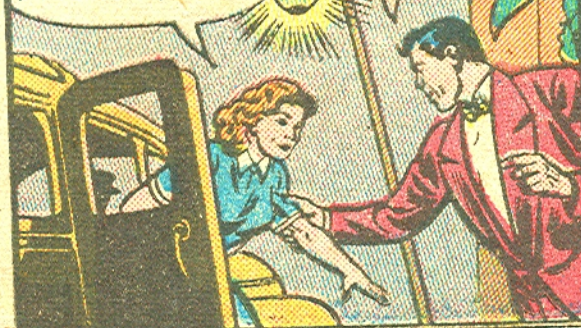


THE CHINATOWN MURDERS!

THE DAY HAD BEEN DULLER THAN A BUTTER KNIFE AND THE CASH REGISTER HADN'T PINGED IN A WEEK! BUT ONE HAS TO EAT REGARDLESS! REMEMBERING I HAD ONE PAL IN CHINATOWN WHOSE CUFF WAS AS BIG AS HIS HEART, DEE DEE DAWSON AND I CLOSED UP SHOP EARLY AND TAXIED DOWNTOWN!

HMM...SUCH PLEASANT WEATHER...SUCH DELIGHTFUL ATMOSPHERE! I JUST LOST MY APPETITE, KEN!

WONG HEI WILL HELP YOU FIND IT! HE MAKES THE MOST DELICIOUS LOBSTER CANTONESE THIS SIDE OF PEKING!

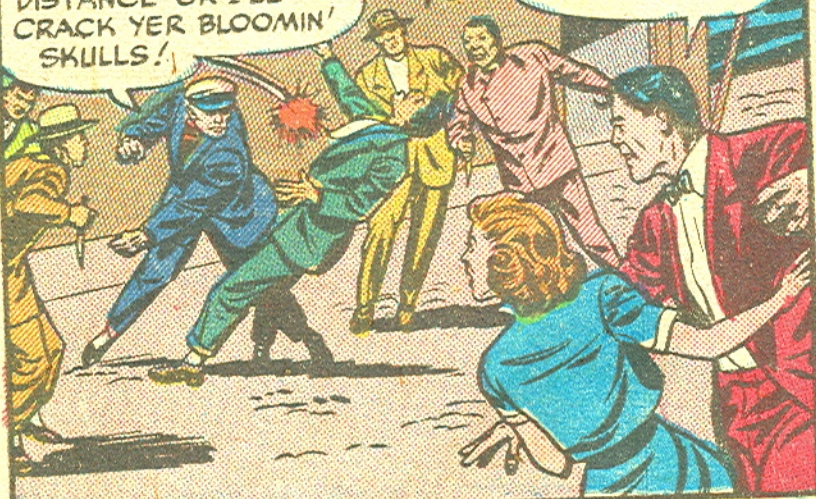


WE HADN'T TAKEN TWO STEPS DOWN THE LITTLE SIDE-STREET TO WONG HEI'S CELLAR RESTAURANT WHEN WE HEARD A SCREAM ...

AAIIII! AVAST THERE, YA BLASTED RICE-EATERS! KEEP YER DISTANCE OR I'LL CRACK YER BLOOMIN' SKULLS!

臭佬!

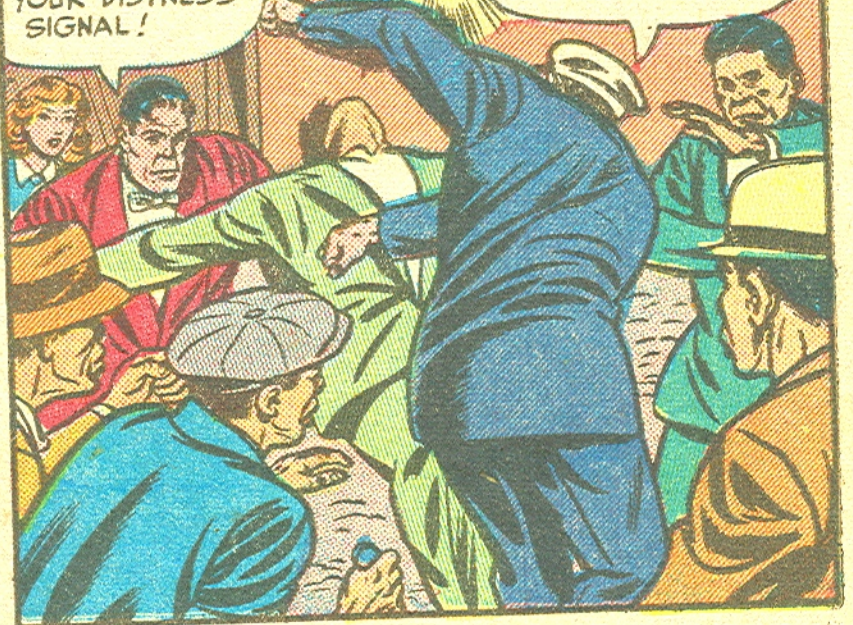
HMM... SOMEBODY'S IN DANGER OF WINDING UP AS DICED DUCK, CANTON STYLE!



HOLD OUT, MATE! WE'RE ANSWERING YOUR DISTRESS SIGNAL!

YEEOWW!

BLESS YA! I WAS ALMOST TORPEDOED, CUSS THEIR-BACK-STABBIN' HIDES!



THOSE BABIES WERE PLAYING FOR KEEPS! YOU COULD TELL BY THE WAY THEY KEPT COMING BACK WITH THEIR PIG-STICKERS ...

WHAT ARE THEY AFTER? THEY'RE TOO SORE FOR A STICKUP!

IT'S A LONG-STORY, MATE! LET'S TRY TO GET OUTA THIS ALIVE SO'S I CAN TELL IT!



NO MATTER WHAT WE DISHED OUT, THOSE RATS WOULDN'T SAY DIE! SO I SAID IT FOR THEM! I PULLED OUT MY .38!

THAT DONE IT! WHY DIDN'T YA LET 'EM KNOW YA HAD A ROSCOE BEFORE?

I'M FULL OF SURPRISES! LET'S TAKE IT ON THE LAM WHILE THE LAMMING'S GOOD!



WE LAMMED DOWN TO WONG HEI'S PLACE WHERE THE WOULD-BE VICTIM

TURNED OUT TO BE A MERCHANT SEAMAN NAMED MIKE TALCOTT! AS WE SETTLED DOWN TO WON-TON SOUP, MIKE PULLED A LITTLE PORCELAIN STATUE OUT OF HIS POCKET...

HERE'S WHAT THEM DEVILS WAS AFTER!

A CHEAP PORCELAIN FIGURE! WHY, THEY CAN PICK IT UP ANYWHERE FOR FIFTY CENTS! WHERE'D YOU GET IT?



I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW I HAD IT TILL I CAME OUTA THIS OPIUM JOINT! SOMEBODY MUST'VE SLIPPED IT INTO MY POCKET! IF I FIND THE CRUMB, I'LL RIP HIM TO PIECES!

IT MUST HAVE SENTIMENTAL OR SYMBOLIC VALUE, SINCE THOSE HAT-CHET MEN WERE WILLING TO RISK THEIR LIVES TO GET IT!



THEY MUST BE NUTS! YOU KEEP IT, MR. SHANNON! IT BRUNG ME NOTHIN' BUT BAD LUCK!

THANKS! I'M ALWAYS CURIOUS ABOUT THE THINGS MEN WILL DIE FOR! FILE THIS AWAY IN YOUR PURSE, DEE DEE!



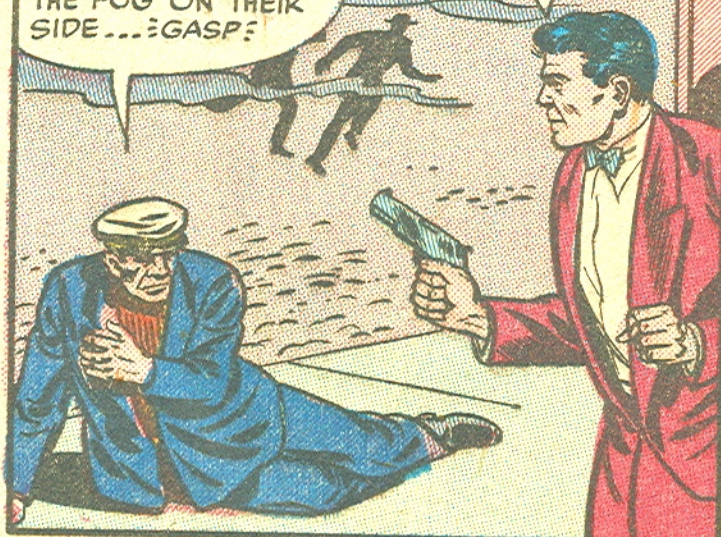
FOR AN HOUR WE FORGOT THERE WERE KILLERS IN THE WORLD, AND WE ATE LIKE VULTURES! FINALLY, MIKE TOOK OFF! HE WAS NO SOONER OUT THE DOOR WHEN...



BUT BY THE TIME I REACHED THE DOOR, THE ASSASSINS HAD DONE THEIR DIRTY WORK!

OHhhh! D-DON'T FOLLOW 'EM...
GASP: T-THEY GOT THE FOG ON THEIR SIDE...GASP!

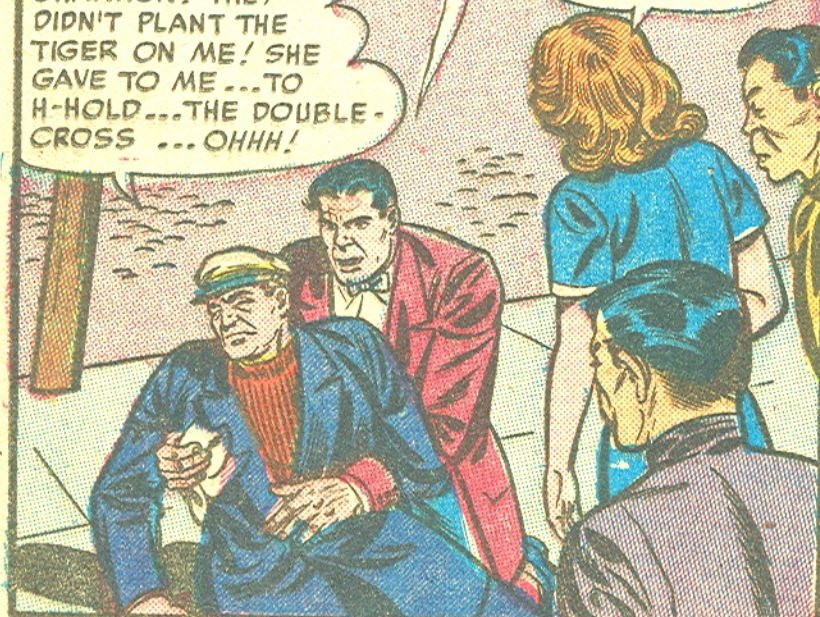
MIKE, WHERE'S THIS OPIUM DEN?



P-PAPA SING'S... ON CARROT STREET...
GASP: I L-LIED, SHANNON! THEY DIDN'T PLANT THE TIGER ON ME! SHE GAVE TO ME...TO H-HOLD...THE DOUBLE-CROSS...OHhh!

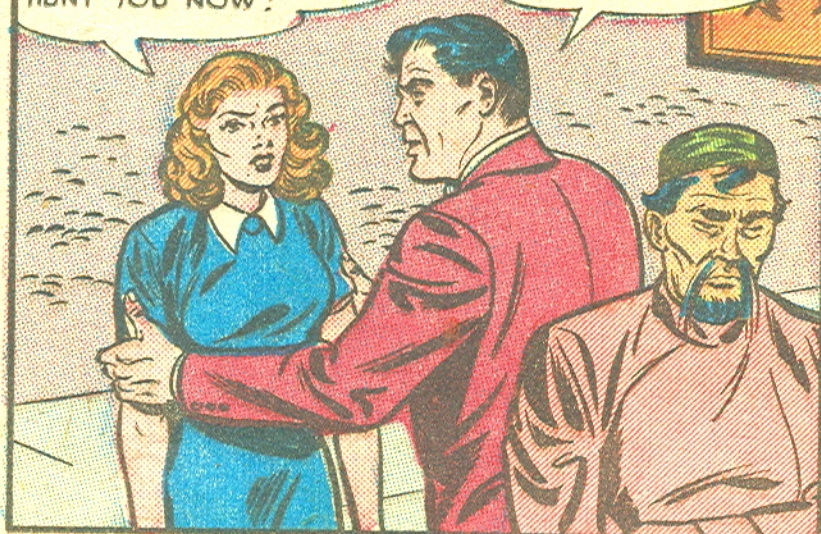
HE'S DEAD!

YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, KEN!



YOU'RE ON THE SPOT! WHOEVER KILLED MIKE TALCOTT AND DIDN'T FIND THE TIGER ON HIM WILL FIGURE MIKE PASSED IT ON TO YOU! THEY'LL HUNT YOU NOW!

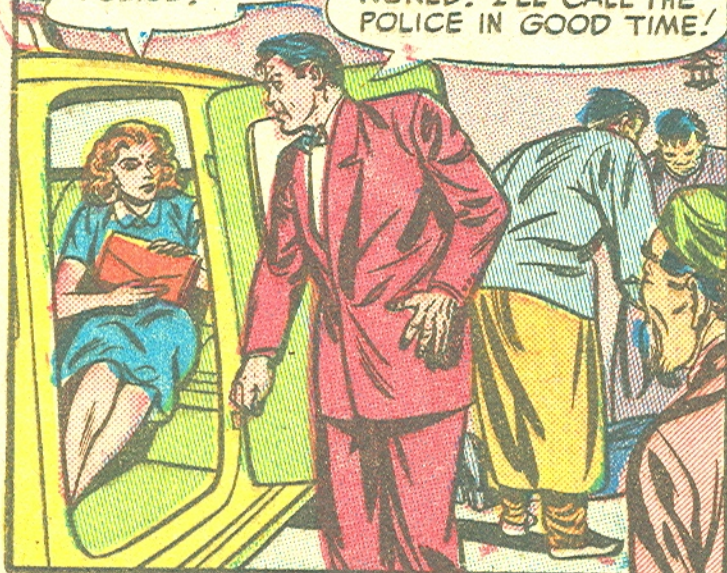
LET 'EM! THEY'LL CATCH A TIGER BY THE TAIL! WONG, WILL YOU PHONE FOR A TAXI? MISS DAWSON'S LEAVING, CHOP CHOP!



BUT DEE DEE WAS ABOUT AS EAGER TO ESCAPE WITH THE STATUARY AS I WAS TO SEE HER HIT THE ROAD...

I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE YOU ALONE, KEN! ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN! AT LEAST, CALL THE POLICE!

LOOK, KID, I SMELL A BUCK IN THIS! AND RIGHT NOW THE SMELL OF MONEY IS LIKE NO OTHER AROMA IN THE WORLD! I'LL CALL THE POLICE IN GOOD TIME!



AT LAST, DEE TOOK OFF AND I TURNED TO WONG HEI...

WHEN THE COPS COME, YOU KNOW FROM NOTHING, WONG! I WASN'T HERE! YOU JUST HEARD SHOTS!

BUT WONG HEI HEAR WHAT DEAD MAN SAY! PAPA SING...IT IS EVIL PLACE! BAD MEN GO THERE...DOPE PEDDLER...GANGSTER! MISS DAWSON RIGHT! YOU BETTER CALL POLICE!



KEN SHANNON

BUT WONG HEI WAS AN OLD FRIEND AND OLD FRIENDS OFTEN DO FAVORS! SOON I WAS KNOCKING ON THE DOOR OF AN EVIL-SMELLING DUMP ON CARROT STREET...

A FRIEND OF MINE TOLD ME I COULD GET A HOP-STICK HERE!

YOU MAKE MISTAKE, NO HOP STICK HERE! GO 'WAY!



SORRY, JOHN! I HAPPEN TO LIKE MY GONGER!



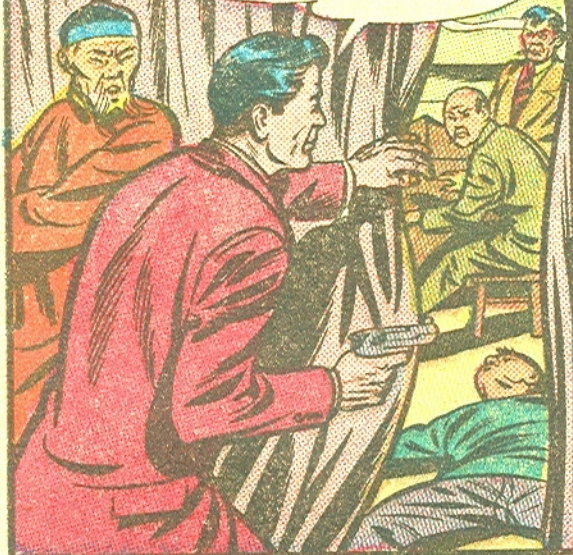
YES? WHAT IS WRONG?

YOU MUST BE PAPA SING! EVER HEAR OF A MERCHANT SEAMAN CALLED MIKE TALCOTT? ON HIS DEATH BED HE RECOMMENDED YOUR DOPERIE!



MIKE DEAD?

VERY DEAD! LIKE THIS GUY LYING ON THE FLOOR! YOU MUST SERVE PRETTY STRONG DREAM WAX, PAPA! ONE SIDE, JOHNNY!



KNIFE JOB, EH? TEN TO ONE THIS IS THE CHARACTER WHO ALSO OWNED A TIGER!

YOU KNOW ABOUT TIGER, EH? MAYBE YOU KNOW WHERE TIGER IS?



YOU BET I DO! BUT IT'LL COST YOU PLENTY TO SHARE MY SECRET!

NO, MY FRIEND! IT'LL COST YOU PLENTY! SEIZE HIM!



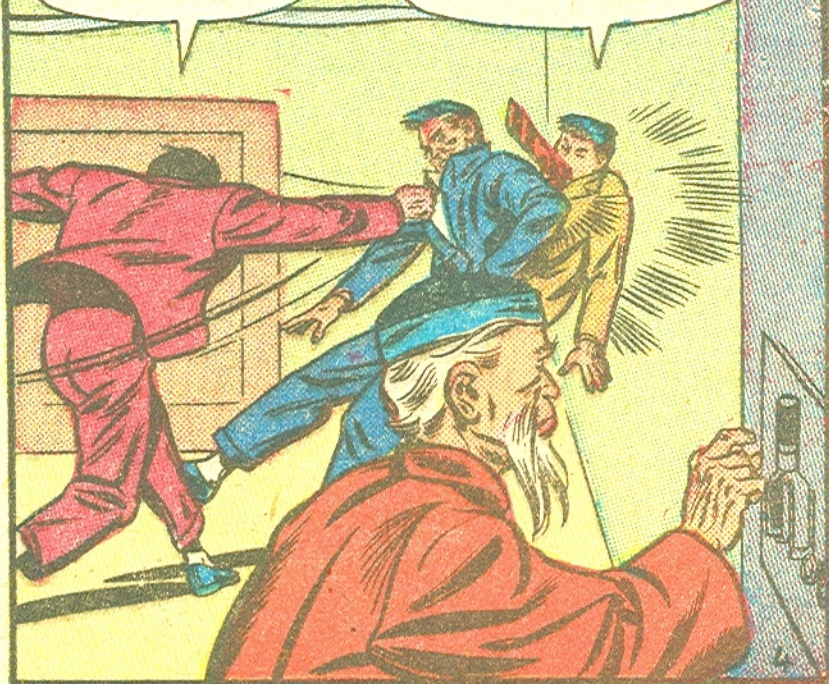
I GUESS YOU CHUMPS DON'T KNOW I'M UNTOUCHABLE!

IDIOTS! CANNOT FIVE MEN HANDLE ONE?



THE ANSWER IS... NO!

URRRRGHH!



A SECOND LATER THE ROOM WAS PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS! GUN-FIRE CRISS-CROSSED WILDLY, MADLY PAST ME! SUDDENLY A SOFT HAND TOUCHED MY SHOULDER AND A SOFT VOICE CROONED IN MY EAR...



THIS WAY, QUICK! I KNOW A SIDE EXIT!

LEAD THE WAY! THIS HOT LEAD'S GETTING HOTTER!

I FOLLOWED THE GIRL'S PERFUME LIKE A FOUNDERING SHIP FOLLOWS A LIGHTHOUSE BEAM! SOON WE WERE OUT IN THE FOG AGAIN!



THANKS! NOW TELL ME WHY... WHY YOU HELPED ME! WHY A GIRL LIKE YOU IS HANGING AROUND PAPA SING'S DOPE DEN?

DON'T BOTHER EXPLAINING! IT'S THE GUMSHOE WHO BETTER COME UP WITH THE RIGHT ANSWERS!

NICK KREDA! IT'S A NIGHT OF SURPRISES! ISN'T THIS A LITTLE OFF YOUR REGULAR BEAT, NICK?

MY BEAT'S WHEREVER THE DOUGH IS! YOU KNOW WHERE THE DOUGH IS, SHAMUS! IT ALL ADDS UP TO YOU AN' ME HAVIN' IT OUT!



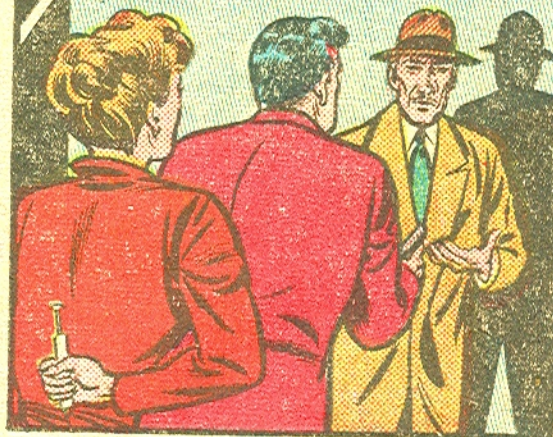
I'VE GOT A HEATER IN MY PEARLY WHITE, KREDA! YOUR PUMP MIGHT SPRING A LEAK BEFORE MINE DOES! WHAT GIVES THIS LITTLE TIGER STATUE THAT EVERYBODY'S COMMITTING BLOODY MURDER TO GET THEIR GREEDY MITTS ON IT?

STOP PLAYIN' FOOTSY WITH ME, SHAMUS! YOU KNOW THAT TIGER'S GUT IS FILLED WITH ICE! AND IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR GUT FILLED WITH LEAD...



SO THAT'S IT! THE TIGER TUMMY IS STUFFED WITH ILL-GOTTEN DIAMONDS AND RUBIES! WHO STUFFED IT, NICK! YOU?

I AIN'T "INFORMATION PLEASE"! ARE YOU HANDIN' OVER THAT TIGER OR DO WE SHOOT IT OUT?



I'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE GIRL! BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, SHE HADN'T FORGOTTEN ME! NOT TILL I GOT A SHARP STICK IN THE SHOULDER BLADE, DID I REMEMBER HER!



I'VE GOT HIM, NICK! QUICK!

YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING HELLCAT! I'LL...

BUT IT WAS TOO LATE! EVEN AS I GOT OFF A FEW WILD SHOTS, THE ALLEYWAY WAS SWIMMING AROUND ME!

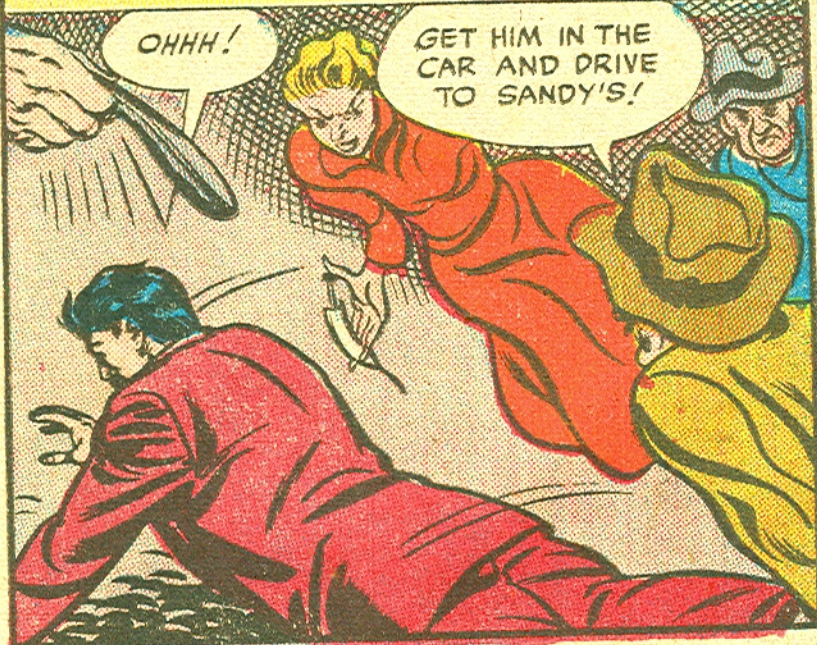


BANG! BANG!

GASP!

HE'S FADIN' FAST! SAP HIM!

SOMETHING EXPLODED IN MY HEAD, AND I SLIPPED RAPIDLY INTO A VELVETY DARKNESS WHILE A MERRY-GO-ROUND OF FACES WATCHED AND LEERED!



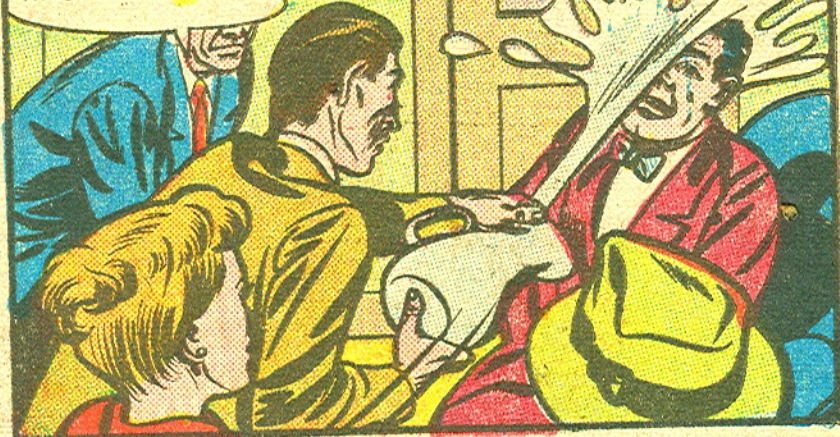
OHHH!

GET HIM IN THE CAR AND DRIVE TO SANDY'S!

WHEN I CAME TO, I HAD THE TASTE OF BEER IN MY MOUTH! WHICH WASN'T SURPRISING! KREDA WAS USING IT TO REVIVE ME...

OKAY, SLEEPIN' BEAUTY... SPILL IT! THE TIGER, WHERE IS IT? WHEN CHOW LUNG'S HIBINDERS WENT THROUGH MIKE TALCOTT'S POCKETS, IT WASN'T THERE!

I'M A BUSINESS MAN, KREDA! NAME YOUR PRICE! I LIKE TO EAT ONCE IN A WHILE!



ALL YOU'LL EAT IS LEAD! WHERE'S THAT TIGER? OR SO HELP ME, SHAMUS, I'LL USE YOU AS A DART BOARD FOR BREAD KNIVES!



SUDDENLY I HEARD ANOTHER VOICE, AS IF IN MY DREAMS! HOW COULD IT BE ANYTHING BUT A DREAM TO FIND DEE DEE STANDING THERE?

DID I HEAR SOMEONE MENTION A LITTLE TIGER FIGURE?

I FOUND THIS DAME SNOOPIN' AROUND OUTSIDE, NICK! SHE SAID SHE WAS SHANNON'S SECRETARY!



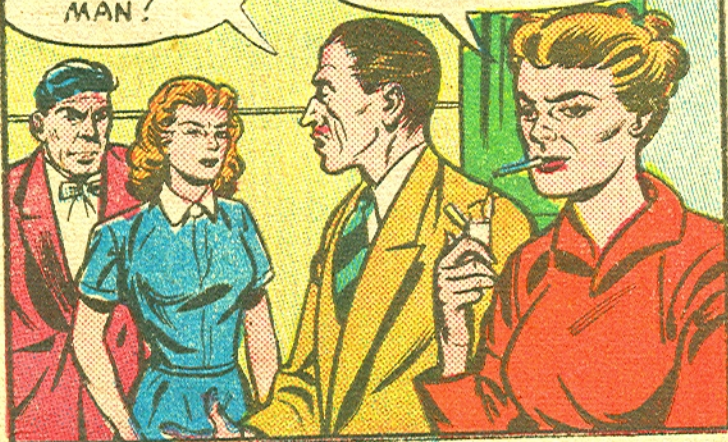
YEP, THIS'S THE PUSSY CAT WE'RE AFTER! GOT YOU ALL MIXED UP, EH, SHAMUS? IT'S REALLY SIMPLE! MY GANG AN' CHOW LUNG'S TEAMED UP TO DO AN ICE JOB DOWNTOWN!

THEN CHOW LUNG DOUBLE-CROSSED YOU! HE RAN AWAY WITH THE LOOT!



BINGO! BUT MY BUNCH RAN AFTER CHOW! SHELLY HERE GOT INTO PAPA SING'S... THAT'S CHOW LUNG'S HEAD-QUARTERS... AN' SLIPPED A KNIFE INTO CHOW'S RIGHT HAND MAN!

THEN I PASSED THE TIGER TO SOME STUPID SAILOR WHO TOOK A SHINE TO ME IN THE DOPE DEN! I KNEW TALCOTT COULD SMUGGLE THE TIGER OUT! BUT THE RICE-EATERS GOT SUSPICIOUS AND FOLLOWED HIM!



KREDA AND THE BABE WERE SO TAKEN UP IN EXPLAINING HOW SMART THEY WERE, THAT FOR A FLEETING SECOND THEY TOOK THEIR EYES OFF YOURS TRULY! IT WAS ALL THE CHANCE I NEEDED...

TOO BAD, KREDA! THAT TIGER'S SLIPPERY! IT'S GOING TO GIVE YOU THE SLIP AGAIN!

H-HEY!



KEN SHANNON

KREDA'S GANG CAME UP WITH THEIR HEATERS, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE! I ALREADY HAD KREDA'S ROSCOE IN MY OWN HAND...

N-NO MORE! WE GIVE UP DON'T SHOOT!

THEN DROP YOUR GUNS!

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO GUZZLE STALE BEER, KREDA! AS FOR YOU, SISTER...

SPEAKING OF DIRE PUNISHMENTS, MR. SHANNON, HOW ABOUT ONE FOR YOURSELF?

I RECOGNIZED THE VOICE AND A SECOND LATER I RECOGNIZED THE GUN! IT WAS IN DEE DEE'S RIBS...

SMART SHAMUS! A WISE MAN IS ONE WHO KNOWS HE IS BEATEN! TAKE MR. KREDA... HE FIGHTS ON AND WHAT HAPPENS?

HE DIES! HE'S TOO STUPID TO LIVE!

ARRGH!

BANG! BANG!

THE TIGER IS MINE... AT LAST! \$200,000 WORTH OF JEWELS... MINE!

ALL THAT'S YOURS, CHOW, IS A PORCELAIN TIGER WORTH FIFTY CENTS! ANOTHER THING THAT'S YOURS IS A...

RIGHT CROSS TO THE JAW!

CRACK!

A SECOND LATER, HOMICIDE LIEUTENANT ART CLYDE WALKED IN AND TOOK OVER! BUT NOT BY ACCIDENT! I'D TOLD DEE DEE TO SEND FOR THE POLICE AND HAVE THEM TRAIL HER...

AS LONG AS I HAD THE TIGER, I KNEW THE TWO MOBS WOULD BE BUSTING THEIR GUTS TRYING TO GET IT BACK! BUT, OF COURSE, I HAD MY GIRL FRIDAY PICK UP A SUBSTITUTE KITTY!

HERE'S THE REAL MCCOY, KEN!

YOU SEE, WHEN MIKE TALCOTT CAUGHT A BELLY-FULL, I KNEW THAT TIGER WAS A RARE TROPHY! SO I'D PUT ON A PERFORMANCE IN FRONT OF WONG HEI'S FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES!

KREDA'S DEAD, CHOW WILL GET THE CHAIR! AND YOU'LL GET A FAT REWARD! BUT TELL ME, KEN! WHAT IF I DIDN'T BUST IN IN TIME?

HE'D HAVE STALLED AROUND! I KNOW, LIEUTENANT! KEN'S STALLED ME OUT OF A MARRIAGE LICENSE FOR YEARS!

SURE, HONEY! ISN'T MARI-MONY A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH?

KEN SHANNON

LITTLE OLD LADY

STEVE CORBIN closed his office door quietly. He didn't want to disturb the little, old lady who was napping in his waiting room chair. She awoke with a start, "Are you Mr. Corbin?" she asked breathlessly, "I do hope so. I hurried right over to see you. I need your help." Just then, Steve's secretary came out of his private office, "Hello, Steve," she greeted, and then turned to the old lady. "You can come in here now, Miss Blakeslee." Miss Blakeslee hesitated, looking at Steve pleadingly. "I'll be with you in a moment," he said.

The name, Blakeslee, rang a bell with Steve and his secretary, Julia, filled him in on events up to now. "She's one of the famous Blakeslee sisters. The two old girls who stay penned up in that mansion downtown." "Yeah, I remember now," replied Steve. "What in the world does she want with a private detective?" Julia shrugged, "You got me! She wouldn't say a word. She's been here for two hours." Steve strode into his inner office.

Miss Blakeslee began pouring out her story. "My sister, Eva, has disappeared," she burst out. "Why have you come to me instead of informing the Bureau of Missing Persons?" Steve questioned. "Oh, we couldn't stand the bad publicity. Before father died, he cautioned us never to blacken the family name, never to marry anyone who might bring disgrace to the proud name of Blakeslee." "Well, suppose you tell me the story from the beginning, Miss Blakeslee," said Steve, quietly. She launched on the story of the family life up until the death of the father fifteen years earlier. Since then the sisters had lived like a pair of recluses, an existence that suited them well after years under the domination of a father who turned away their suitors and restricted their every pleasure. "We took occasional walks along the river. But the waterfront has become so noisy and boisterous over the last twenty years." Seems that during one of the sisters' daily walks, Eva had made eyes at a young man loitering about one of the piers. "Yes," said Miss Blakeslee, trembling, "I shudder to think of it, but Eva actually flirted with that young ruffian." The man followed them home, and at the door, introduced himself as Brian Ford, a sailor. Miss Blakeslee was sure that Eva met him after dark that night, and the next night, too. But it was on the third night that Eva disappeared, and with her, went a great deal of money. The girls kept all their worldly wealth hidden around the old mansion. "Don't you trust the banks?" asked Steve. She replied with vehemence, "I like to keep my money around me, Mr. Corbin. Eva was always talking about going to a bank with it, but I was sure she just wanted to go there to meet men. Eva's the younger sister, you know, and apt to be flighty. I'm sure that sailor had something to do with Eva's disappearance, Mr. Corbin. I just don't trust any men." Steve nodded, tight-lipped. He got a complete description of Eva, together with a picture taken many years previous and then he dismissed Miss Blakeslee, telling her he'd check and call her later.

On the docks, he located Brian Ford on the sailors' registry. He was hardly a young man, close to sixty. He readily admitted following the Blakeslee sisters home. "It was just for laughs, Mr. Corbin. Though this one you call Eva, was a nice, little lady. But the other sister, phew!" and he made a grotesque face. He said he asked Eva to go out, but she refused. He saw them taking the

daily walks the next three days and greeted them as they strolled by. "I haven't seen 'em since." When Steve got back to the office Julia spread the evening paper before him. The headlines told of the unidentified body of an older woman washed up out of the river a few miles downstream. Steve shook his head, "It's probably Eva," he said. "And I'll bet that sailor had nothing to do with it. He's unemployed now, but if he had all the dough that Miss Blakeslee claims is missing, why would he hang around? I don't trust that old dame's story." He rounded up Brian Ford, briefed him on a plan, and they headed for the Blakeslee mansion.

Miss Blakeslee opened the door. "What are YOU doing here," she snarled at Ford. He paused for a moment, but then entered the house at Steve's insistence. "I brought Mr. Ford along, Miss Blakeslee. He's come for Miss Eva's things. You mentioned the money was gone, but Miss Eva didn't take her clothes, did she?" "She asked me to come for 'em!" added Brian Ford. The old woman gazed about her wildly and then rushed into a room that led off the entrance hall, she came back wielding a poker. "Eva doesn't need any clothes," she said softly, gazing at the poker with a dreamy expression on her face. Then she shook the poker under the astonished sailor's nose. "I found this awhile ago, Brian Ford. See, it's all crusted with blood. You killed my sister with it and then stole her money. Give me back the money!" she screamed. Steve moved in slowly as Brian stepped back. "You're interested in money, Miss Blakeslee. Has it occurred to you that it might cost you a lot of money to prove that Brian killed your sister?" She stood for a moment, then in a quick move, she darted out toward the sailor, waving the poker like a club. "Then I'll kill him now," she cried. Steve caught her arm just as it was descending. He was surprised at her strength and it was with an effort that he finally subdued her. She kept babbling, "Eva always wanted to spend money. That's what was wrong with her. Well, I wouldn't let her and I won't let anyone take it from me. It's all mine, now! All mine!"

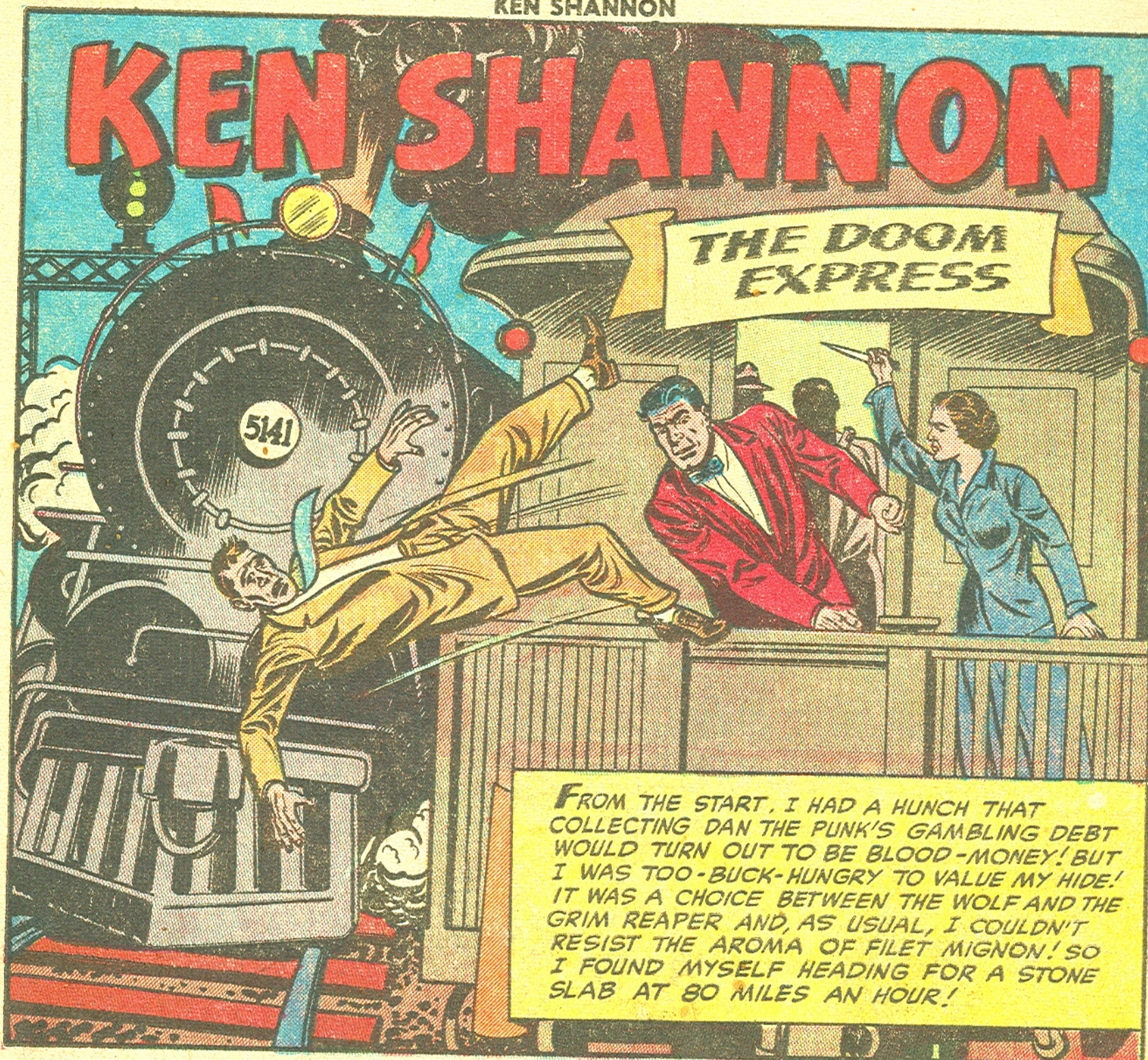
Later, the police took over. As the story fitted together, Eva had wanted to buy some clothes to go out with Brian. It infuriated her sister so that an argument ensued and the old girl had taken up the poker and gone after poor Eva. During the night she had somehow managed to drag her body down to the river.

Back in his office, his secretary looked incredulous, "Not that dear, little, old lady?" "Yeah," answered Steve wearily, "that dear, little, old lady."

**FOLLOW
THE DARING EXPLOITS OF
KEN SHANNON
EVERY MONTH IN
POLICE
Comics**

KEN SHANNON

THE DOOM EXPRESS



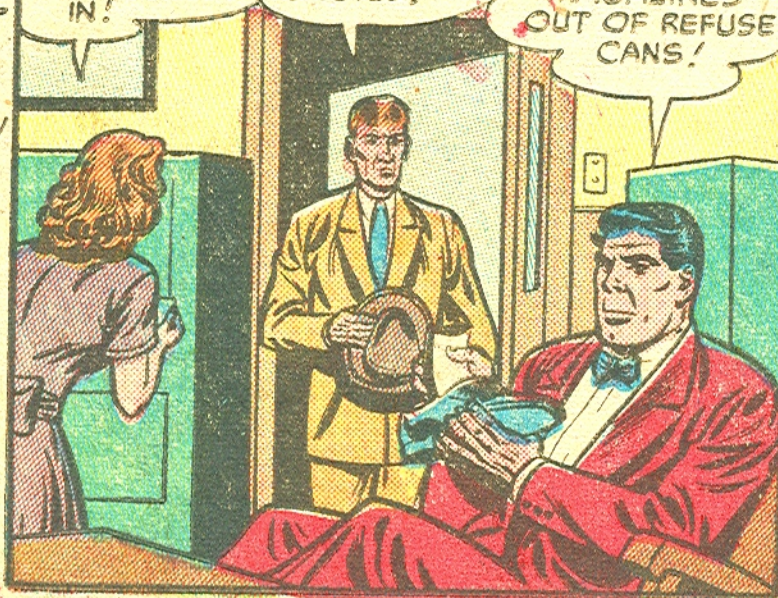
FROM THE START, I HAD A HUNCH THAT COLLECTING DAN THE PUNK'S GAMBLING DEBT WOULD TURN OUT TO BE BLOOD-MONEY! BUT I WAS TOO-BUCK-HUNGRY TO VALUE MY HIDE! IT WAS A CHOICE BETWEEN THE WOLF AND THE GRIM REAPER AND, AS USUAL, I COULDN'T RESIST THE AROMA OF FILET MIGNON! SO I FOUND MYSELF HEADING FOR A STONE SLAB AT 80 MILES AN HOUR!

I WAS LINING MY SIZE NINES WITH NEWS-PAPER HEADLINES AND WONDERING HOW COOKED SHOES WOULD TASTE, WHEN A SHORT, NERVOUS GUY CAME INTO THE OFFICE!

DON'T DROP DEAD, BOSS! A CUSTOMER JUST WALKED IN!

DON'T BE TOO SURE! I DON'T WANT MYSTERIES SOLVED!

IF YOU'RE SELLING MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS, I GET ALL MY MAGAZINES OUT OF REFUSE CANS!



WHO READS MAGAZINES? I'M STRICTLY A DOPE SHEET MAN MYSELF! I GOT A PROBLEM, SHANNON! A GUY OWES ME SIX GRAND! I WANT YOU TO COLLECT IT!

WHY CAN'T YOU COLLECT IT?



KEN SHANNON



I'M TOO SMALL! HE'S TOO BIG! BESIDES I'M AFRAID OF HIM!

THAT'S TOUGH! THEN I GUESS YOU'RE OUT SIX THOUSAND BUCKS! I'M A PRIVATE EYE, NOT A BILL COLLECTOR!



HOW ABOUT COLLECTIN' TEN BILLS LIKE THESE? YEP... EVERY ONE A CENTURY! COLLECT MY SIX GRAND, AND THE DOUGH IS YOURS, SHANNON!

HMMM... PAPA NEEDS A NEW PAIR OF SHOES! WHO'S THE COLLECTEE?



A GAMBLER BY THE NAME OF JUD SANFORD! SANFORD'S FLUSH NOW! HE TOOK THIRTY GRAND LAST NIGHT FROM NICK TURINO IN A POKER GAME!

FEW MEN HAVE DONE THAT... AND LIVED! WHAT'S SANFORD'S SECRET?



SANFORD'S NOBODY TO MESS AROUND WITH, EITHER! THINK I'D BE PAYIN' YOU A GRAND TO TAKE CANDY FROM A BABY? BY THE WAY, THE NAME'S DAN THE PUNK!

IT DOESN'T MATTER! I'LL FORGET YOU THE SECOND I COLLECT YOUR DOUGH! LET'S GO, DEE DEE!

AT SANFORD'S HOTEL, I LEARNED HE WASN'T ANSWERING THE TELEPHONE! BUT HE HADN'T CHECKED OUT EITHER, SO I DECIDED TO EXCHANGE A FIN FOR THE BELLHOP'S PASS-KEY!



GASP! WHO ARE YOU?

JUST A BILL COLLECTOR! I HEAR YOU DON'T PAY YOUR BILLS, SANFORD! THAT'S NOT NICE!



INSTEAD OF COMMENTING, SANFORD MADE A DIVE FOR HIS HOLSTER...

OH! OH!

DON'T PLAY ROUGH, SANFORD... IT MAKES ME NERVOUS! AND WHEN I GET NERVOUS I DO FUNNY THINGS... LIKE PULL TRIGGERS!



WHAT DO YOU WANT?

MONEY! SIX GRAND! COUNT IT OUT RIGHT NOW... BEFORE YOU BLOW TOWN! DAN THE PUNK LIKES MONEY AS MUCH AS YOU DO... AND SO DO I!

FOR AN INSTANT I SAW A GLEAM IN SANFORD'S EYES... A GLEAM OF HUMOR! I CAUGHT A BRIEF WHIFF OF PERFUME, THEN A THOUSAND LIGHTS EXPLODED IN MY HEAD!



NICE GOIN', BABY! THAT KAYO SAVED US SIX GRAND!

KEN SHANNON

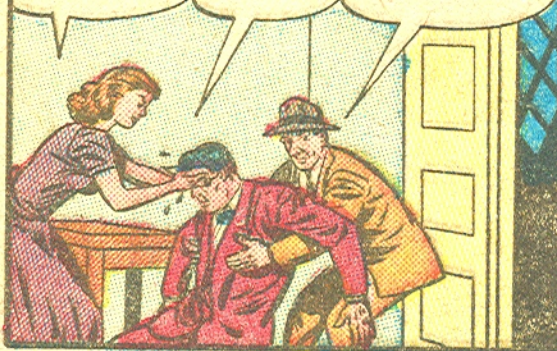
WHEN I CAME TO, DEE DEE WAS PRESSING COLD COMPRESSES TO MY ICY BROW...

WHEN A HALF HOUR PASSED AND YOU DIDN'T SHOW UP, WE INVESTIGATED! WHAT HAPPENED?

I TURNED MY BACK TO A DAME... OWWW! WHAT AN EGG SHE RAISED!

IT MUST'VE BEEN SANFORD'S GIRL FRIEND, RITA! SHE'D BOIL HER MOTHER IN OIL FOR A PEARL NECKLACE!

I CHECKED ON SANFORD'S OUTGOING CALLS AND LEARNED HIS LAST CALL HAD BEEN TO THE RAILROAD TERMINAL...



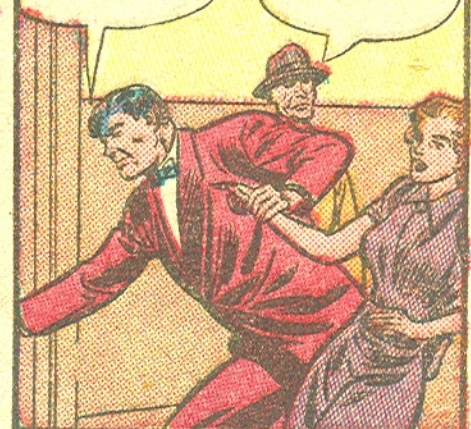
HE MUST BE BLOWING TOWN!

THEN IT'S ALL OVER! TOO BAD ALL YOU'LL GET OUTA THE DEAL IS A LUMP ON THE HEAD, SHAMUS!

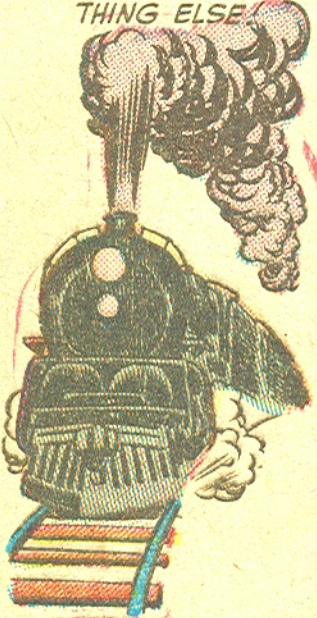


WHEN I GET A LUMP ON THE HEAD, REPULSIVE, SOMEBODY PAYS FOR IT! WHEN THAT TRAIN LEAVES TOWN, I'LL BE ON IT! LET'S GO, DEE DEE!

THAT'S THE KIND OF SHAM- US I LIKE! A BLOOD- HOUND WHO ALWAYS GETS HIS MAN!

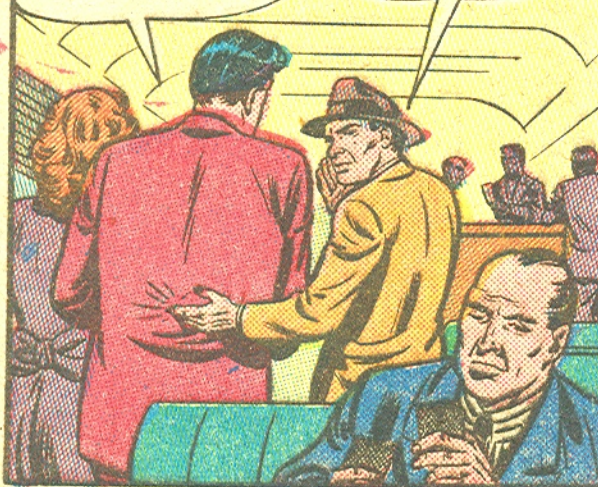


WELL, WE MADE THE TRAIN! BUT FINDING SANFORD AND HIS SWEETIE WAS SOMETHING ELSE!



WE'VE GONE THROUGH THIS TRAIN WITH A FINE TOOTH COMB BUT NOT A SIGN OF SANFORD! MAYBE HE PULLED A FAST ONE!

IF SANFORD AIN'T ON THIS TRAIN, A FRIEND OF HIS IS! THAT'S NICK TURINO SITTING OVER THERE!



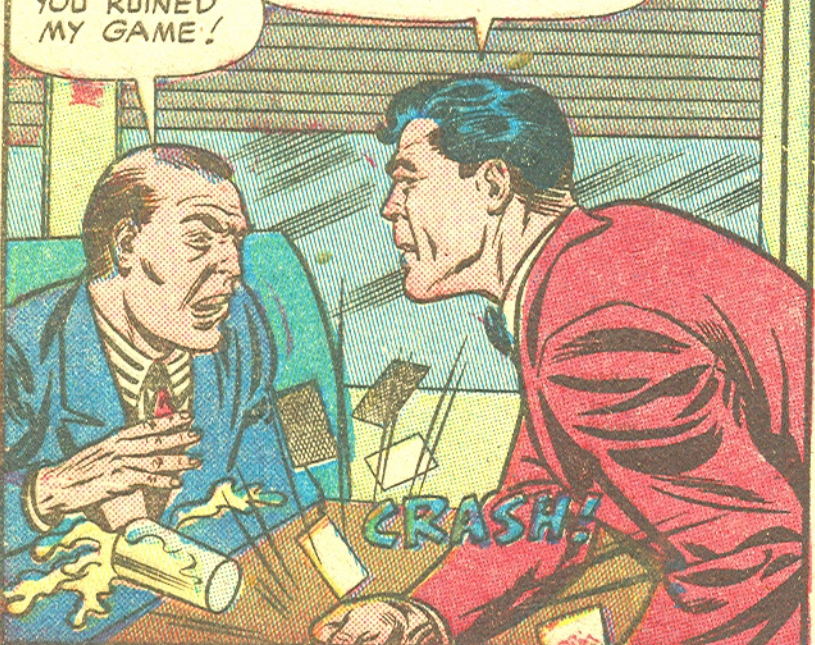
HIYA, NICK! DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SANFORD, TOO?

ALL I'M LOOKIN' FOR IS A BLACK SEVEN TO LAY ON A RED-SIX! SCRAM, PUNK! AND TAKE YER CRUMMY FRIENDS WITH YOU!



HEY! LOOK WHAT YOU DONE! YOU RUINED MY GAME!

IT'S NOT ALL I'LL RUIN! APOLOGIZE TO THE LADY, TURINO... TELL HER YOU'RE THE CRUMB!



WHO THE HECK ARE YOU? YOU CAN'T GIVE ME ORDERS... URGHH!

TELL HER, TURINO! OR I'LL TWIST YOUR STUPID HEAD OFF! TELL HER YOU'RE A CRUMB!



KEN SHANNON



⚡GASP!
I-I'M A
CRUMB!
OHHH!

THAT'S BETTER! NOW
TALK! WHAT ARE YOU
DOING ABOARD
THIS TRAIN?



NONE
OF YOUR
CRUMMY
BUSINESS!

THAT'S THE WRONG
ANSWER, TURINO!
YOU'VE GOT A
VERY UGLY PUSS!
PLASTIC SURGERY
WOULD HELP YOU A
LOT! I THINK I'LL
START BY BREAKING
YOUR NOSE!



W-WAIT! I'LL TALK! I FOUND OUT
SANFORD CHEATED! HE TOOK ME
FOR THIRTY GRAND! I WAS
SORE! I WAS TOLD HE TOOK
THIS TRAIN! BUT HE AIN'T ON
IT!



WHO TIPPED
YOU OFF?
SPEAK UP,
TURINO! OR
WOULD YOU
RATHER SPIT
TEETH?

N-NO! ⚡GASP!
SANFORD'S GIRL,
RITA! SHE TOLD
ME!



WHY DID
RITA DOUBLE-
CROSS
SANFORD?

SHE WAS
HELPIN' HIM
CHEAT ME! HER
CUT WAS FOR
HALF HIS TAKE!
BUT SANFORD
WELCHED AN' SHE
GOT SORE!
THAT'S ALL I
KNOW! HONEST!



WITH THAT, THE INTERVIEW ENDED
AND WE WENT BACK TO MY COM-
PARTMENT!

LOOKS LIKE WE
TOOK A CHOO-
CHOO TRIP FOR
NOTHIN'! I'M GOIN'
TO THE CLUB CAR
FOR A LITTLE NIGHT-
CAP! CARE TO JOIN
ME?

NO! WE'RE GET-
TING OFF AT
THE NEXT STA-
TION! WE'RE
TAKING THE
NEXT TRAIN
BACK!
BETTER PAY
OFF NOW,
DAN!



PAY-OFF? WHAT KIND OF
PAY-OFF? YOU DIDN'T
GET MY DOUGH BACK!
HEY! OWWW!

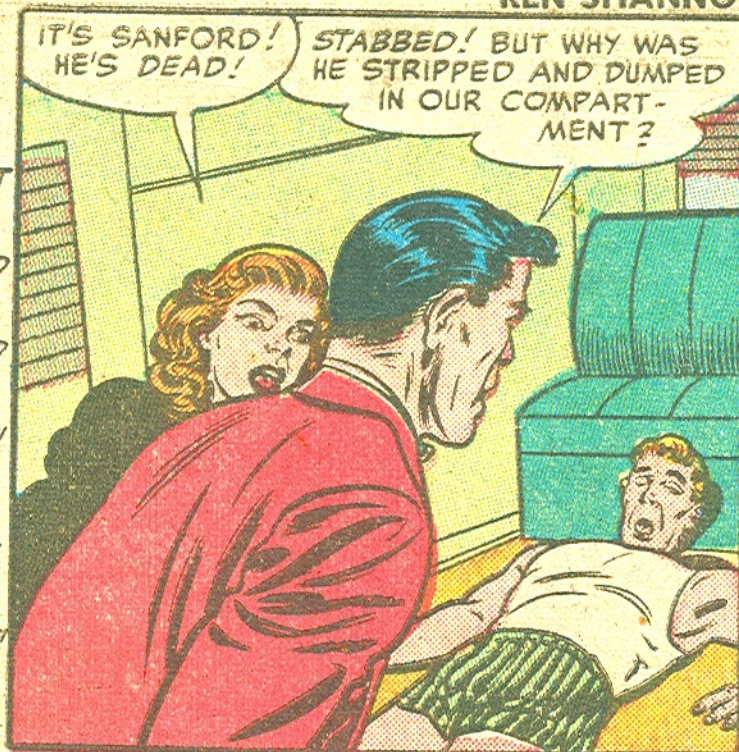
SORRY, PUNK! IF YOU
WON'T HELP ME, I'LL
HELP MYSELF!



A CENTURY FOR ALL MY
PAIN AND TROUBLE! AFTER
ALL, ONLY GEESE GO ON
WILD-GOOSE CHASES!
BETTER LUCK NEXT
TIME!

DROP
DEAD,
SHANNON!

I WASN'T ALWAYS SO ROUGH WITH CLIENTS! BUT DAN WAS THE KIND WHO CRAWLED OUT FROM UNDER A ROCK AND HAD TO BE TREATED ACCORDINGLY! I HAD PROOF OF THAT THE SECOND DEE DEE AND I ENTERED OUR COMPARTMENT!



IT'S SANFORD! HE'S DEAD!

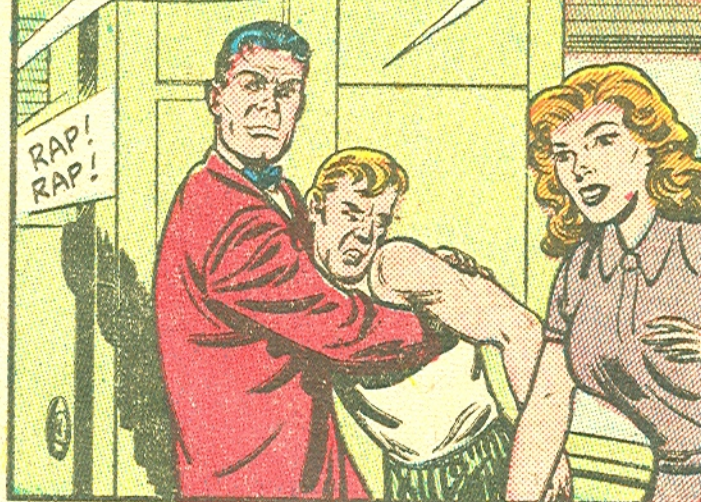
STABBED! BUT WHY WAS HE STRIPPED AND DUMPED IN OUR COMPARTMENT?

ONE OF THE ANSWERS CAME WITH THE KNOCK OF THE CONDUCTOR!

OPEN UP, PLEASE! SOMEBODY REPORTED A MURDER IN THIS COMPARTMENT!

GIVE ME FIVE SECONDS, DEE DEE! THEN TURN THE LOCK!

RAP! RAP!



SOMEBODY'S PLAYING A TRICK ON YOU, CONDUCTOR! THERE'S NO CORPSE IN HERE!

THAT'S A FUNNY! THIS WOMAN WAS VERY POSITIVE!

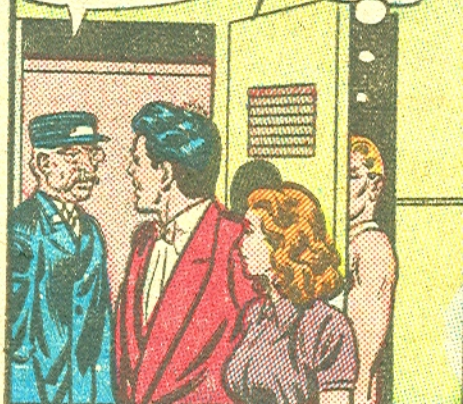
WOMAN?



A GOOD LOOKER! CAN'T UNDERSTAND SOMEBODY MAKING SUCH A MISTAKE! A CORPSE IS NOTHING TO JOKE ABOUT!

PARTICULARLY IF YOU'RE THE CORPSE!

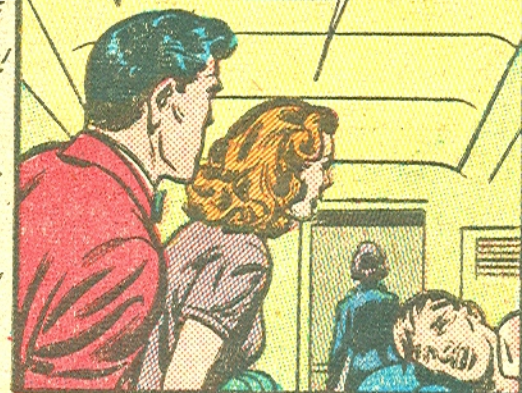
SO RITA REARS HER BLOODY HEAD AGAIN!



WE LOCKED THE COMPARTMENT DOOR AND WENT HUNTING FOR RITA THIS TIME! THE TRAIN WAS FAIRLY DESERTED! MOST PEOPLE WERE IN DREAMLAND! BUT NOT RITA...WE SPOTTED HER STANDING ON THE OBSERVATION PLATFORM!

LOOKS LIKE A COME-ON TO ME! DUCK BEHIND A SEAT, DEE DEE! IF I RUN INTO TROUBLE, SCREAM THE BLOODY ROOF OFF THE TRAIN!

OKAY, BOSS! BUT BE CAREFUL! THIS FEMALE IS A MAN-KILLER!



EVENING, SHAMUS! HOW DOES YOUR NOGGIN FEEL?

CONSIDERING HOW YOU TREAT OTHER MEN... SANFORD, FOR EXAMPLE! I'M LUCKY TO BE ALIVE!

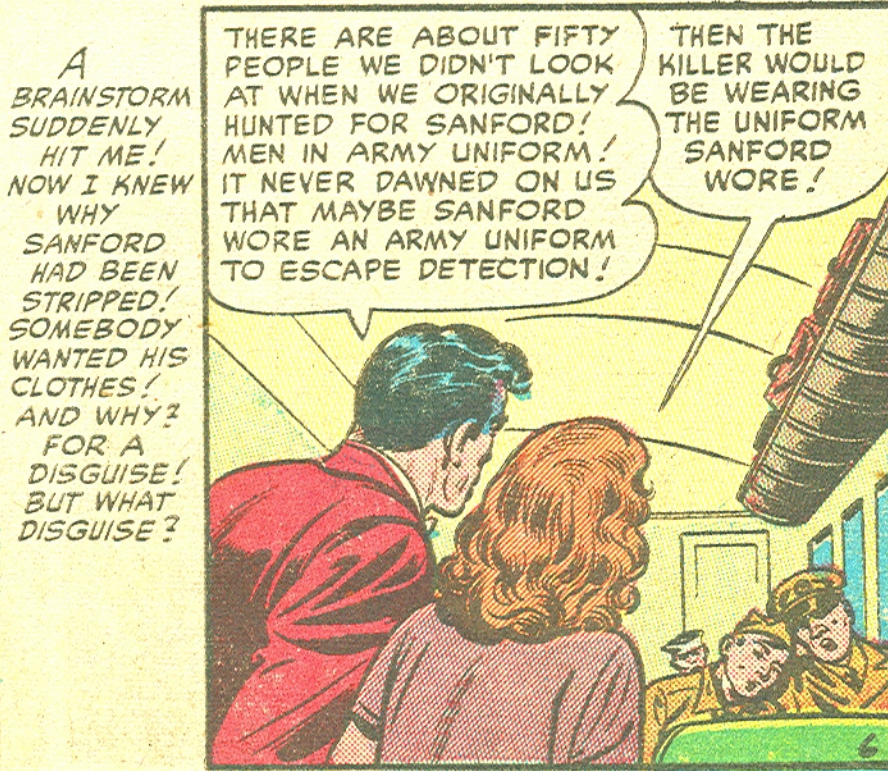
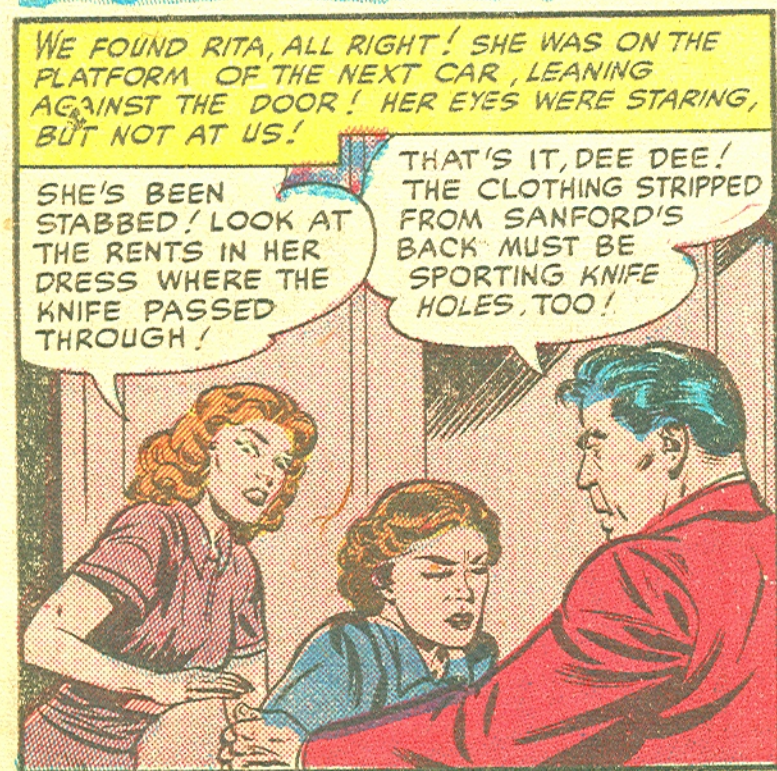
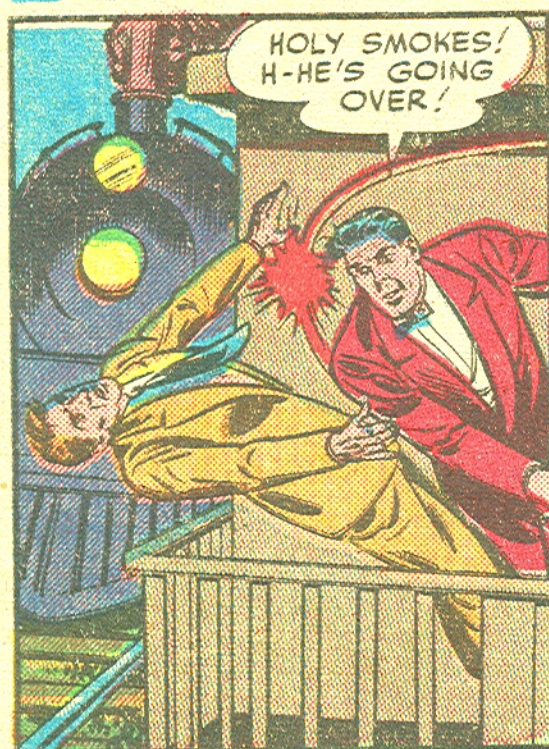
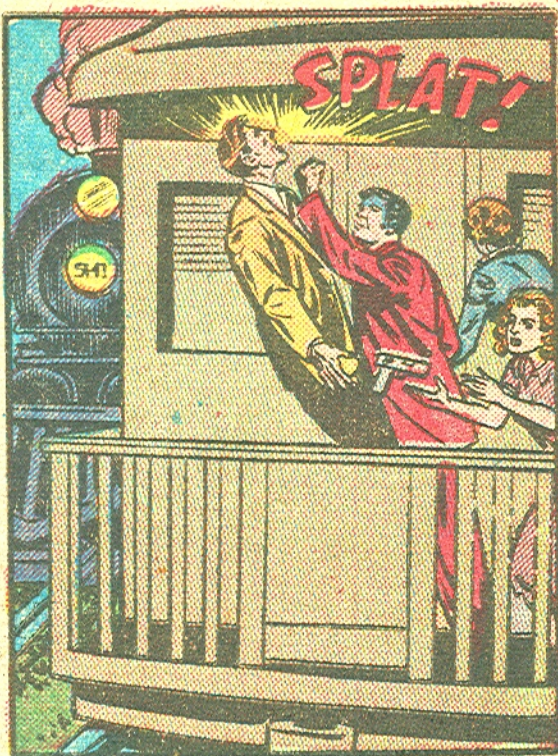


BUT YOUR LUCK'S RUN OUT! REACH, GUMSHOE! I'M SMALL AND MY GUN'S SMALLER! BUT A LITTLE DENT IN THE PUMP KILLS THE BIGGEST MEN!

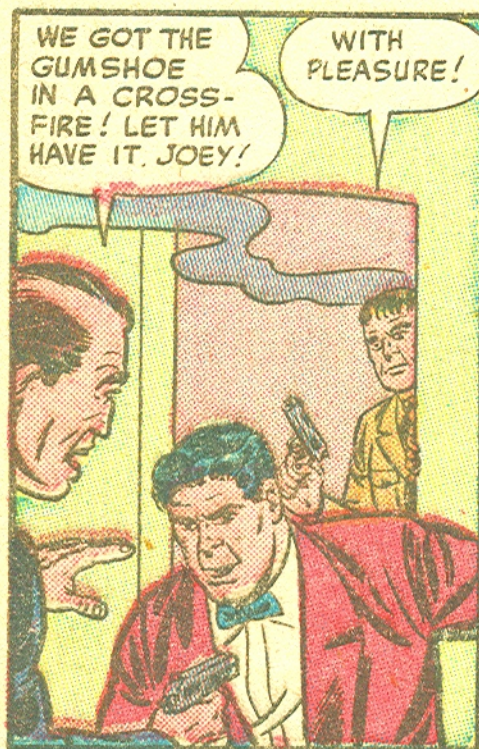
DAN THE PUNK! WHEN DID YOU JOIN THIS HELLCAT?



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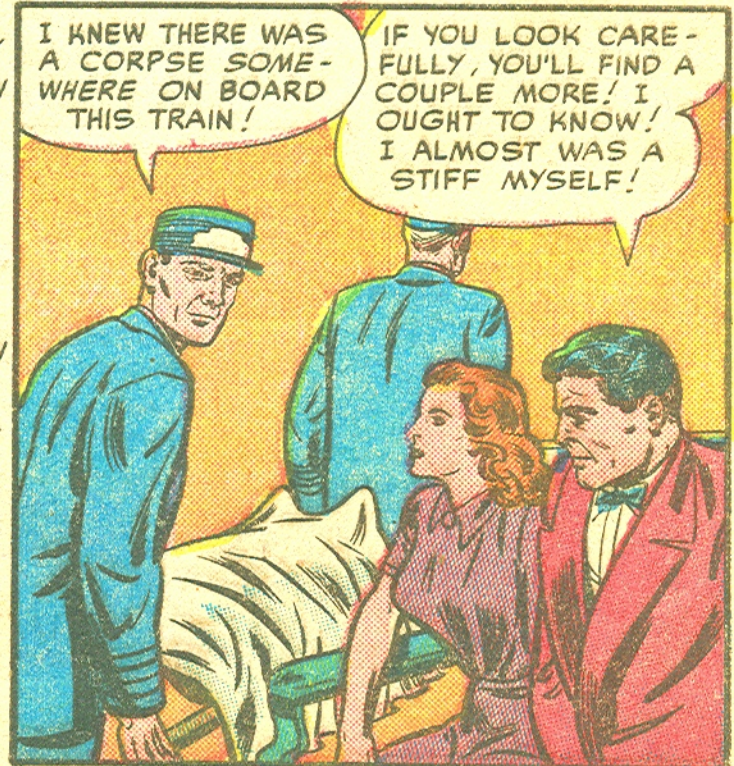
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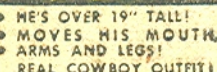


DESPERATELY I HEAVED MY BODY TO THE RIGHT! GUNS EXPLODED FROM TWO DIRECTIONS! I FELT A STING IN MY ARM AS I ROLLED ON THE FLOOR! BUT I ALSO HEARD A SCREAM!



OF COURSE, I HAD THE SATISFACTION OF SEEING JUSTICE DONE TO TURINO AND HIS HATCHET-MAN! ALSO THE SATISFACTION OF HAVING LENT EXCITEMENT TO THE CONDUCTORS' LIVES!





Hey kids—here's your chance to become a master ventriloquist—in a jiffy! Imagine—you can make **HAPPY** the **COWBOY** actually talk! (in your own voice, of course.) Pull the string in the back of his head—watch his lips move—hear your own words coming right out of **HAPPY**'s mouth! See how real he looks—rigged up in a cowboy hat, washable plaid shirt and western pants... Show off your skill at parties—at school! **SEND NO MONEY.** (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

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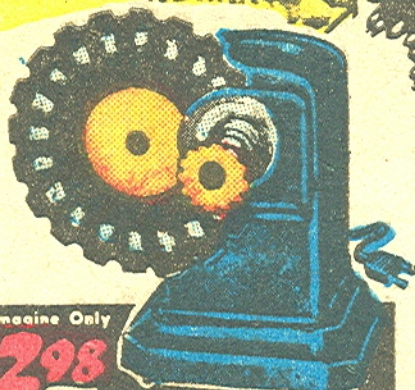
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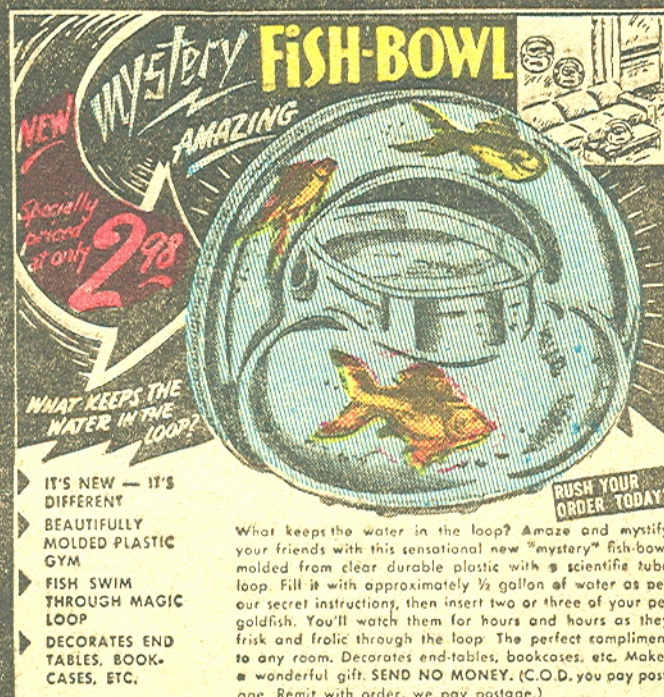
SNOW WHITE
THE OWL AND
THE PUSSY CAT
JINGLE BELLS
THREE LITTLE PIGS
JACK AND JILL
RIP VAN WINKLE
TOM THUMB
ROBINSON CRUSOE
HOUSE THAT JACK
BUILT
WINKIN WILLIE

Now any child can show the most exciting movies at home with this streamlined TELEVIEW Projector, complete with colorful theatre and screen. The bright red plastic projector is safe and simple to operate — nothing to get out of order. Think of the fun of watching your favorite come to life on the theatre screen! This Super Deluxe Projector will mean big movie parties for friends and family. You boys and girls will be fascinated with the Big Movie Shows, and running movies all by yourself is the greatest treat of them all!

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- ▶ FISH SWIM THROUGH MAGIC LOOP
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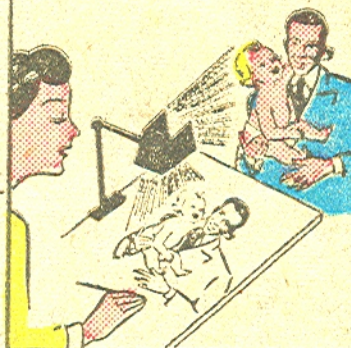
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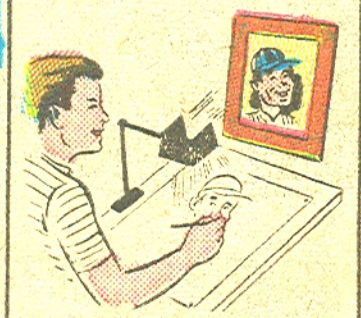
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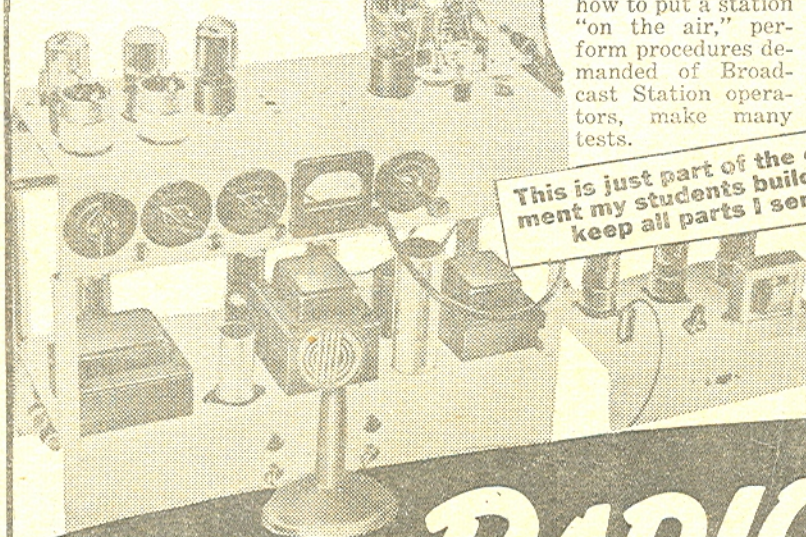
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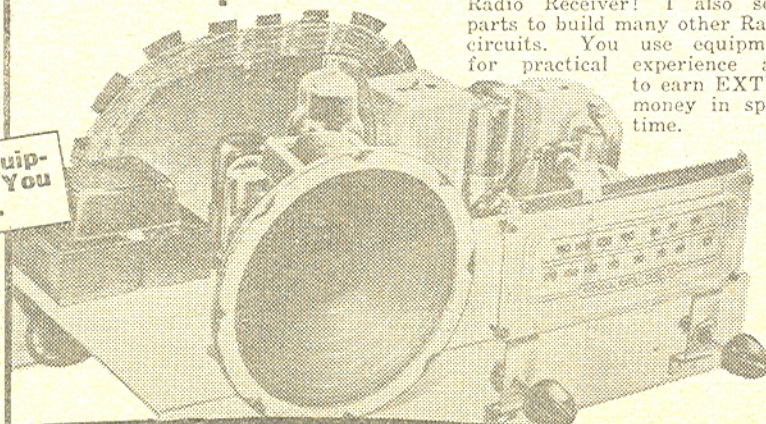
You Practice COMMUNICATIONS I send you parts to build this transmitter



As part of my Communications Course you build this low power broadcasting transmitter, learn how to put a station "on the air," perform procedures demanded of Broadcast Station operators, make many tests.

This is just part of the equipment my students build. You keep all parts I send.

You Practice Radio SERVICING on this modern radio you build with parts I send



As part of my Servicing Course, I send you the speaker, tubes, chassis, transformer, loop antenna, EVERYTHING you need to build this modern, powerful Radio Receiver! I also send parts to build many other Radio circuits. You use equipment for practical experience and to earn EXTRA money in spare time.

BE A RADIO-TELEVISION TECHNICIAN

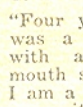
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I TRAINED THESE MEN



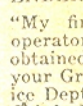
"I have been operating my own Servicing business. In two years I did \$14,000 worth of business; net profit \$6,850. Have one full time employee, an NRI student."—PHILLIP G. BROGAN, Louisville, Ky.



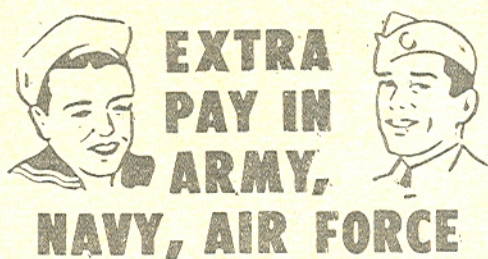
"Four years ago, I was a bookkeeper, with a hand-to-mouth salary. Now I am a Radio Engineer with a key station of the American Broadcasting Company network."—NORMAN H. WARD, Ridgefield Park, New Jersey.



"When halfway through the NRI course, I made \$5 to \$8 a week fixing sets in my spare time. Am now selling and installing Television sets and antennas."—E. J. STREIT-ENBERGER, New Boston, O.



"My first job was operator with KDLR, obtained for me by your Graduate Service Dept. I am now Chief Engineer of Police Radio Station WQOX. I never hesitate to endorse NRI."—T. S. NORTON, Hamilton, Ohio.



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In 1950, over 5,000,000 TV sets sold. By 1954, 25,000,000 TV sets estimated. Over 100 TV Stations now operating. Authorities predict 1,000 TV Stations. This means more jobs, good pay for qualified men all over the United States and Canada.

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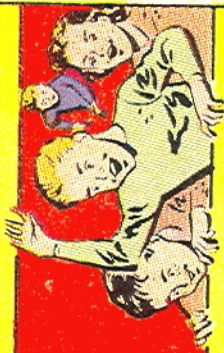
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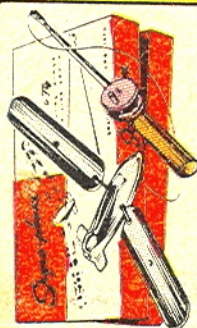
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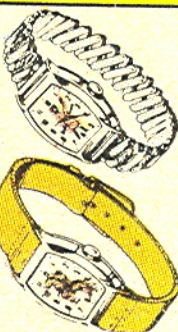
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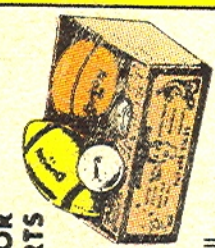
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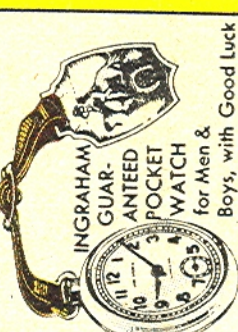
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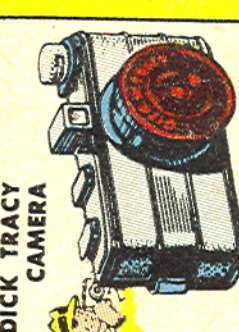
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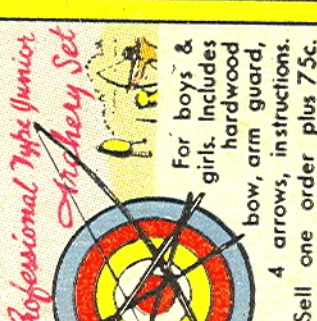
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